

ἔστι γυνὴ, καὶ τῶσι νόοις· αἰδ' ἄσπον ἰόντες
 Τηδῶταροι, χαδ' ἡ φήκων ἐρχομένῳ.
 Ἀλλ' ἔτι δ' ἡ πόδα νηὶς ἀκροῖς παρὰ χήλῃσιν ἄσπον
 Μάλλε τ' ἐπιμβαίνεν πρὸς βοδὴν αὐτοῦ ρόμ.
 Ἀνδρες, καὶ βρυχίοισιν. ὑπασπασθῆσα δ' ἰσχυροῖς,
 Ἀνδρὶ γὰρος, θαμβος περὶ οὐνοῖσι γέμει.
 Ω φασγὰς, ὦ πυρεῖς, ὦ τῆς καὶ ἐπ' ἀρῶσιν ἡττοῦ
 Εὐδομόχων δέμει, σαφροσύνης τε πόθων.
 Οὐδ' ἔτι βας, ἐς ξίφος, ἐς ἅκ' ἄγασσε λογὸς ὁλέθ.
 Οὐδέ μιν ἔδ' ἀπλῆτε σβέσσε ρόος πηγάς.

In Funere Angeli Grylli Abbatis.
 Sub Tabula Religionis Divi Benedicti.

Κῦδος ἔλῳ τιμείαςιν· ἐμοὶ Βενέδικτος ἐν ἀρχῇ,
 Καὶ νῦν μεγαλήν Αἰγύπτου ἄρ' ἐκείνος.

Sub Tabula Mœroris.

Πένθος ἐγὼ ποτ' ἔολπα γόνυ πρὸς γῆθεα ξέφαι.
 Τρύλλε δ' οἰχομένε γῆθεος ἐλπίς ἔδου.

Sub Tabula Poëscos.

Ασματος ἡδὺ κέρσασαν· ὄνειρος ἐφ' ἡδ' ἔτι πολλοί.
 Χρῆλιν, ἡδὺ, σέβας Τρύλλος ἐπλάξε μόνος.

Corrota.

Pag. 12, ver. 1. indistincta 27 deprehendi. 13, 21, oppugnatores. 24, fallit.
 25, 20, & si. 26, 4, dele. eius. 29, dele. quam maternis. 31, 26, multitudine. 35,
 4, premebantur. 43, 9, alimentorum. 50, 7, quænam. 51, 20, exscriptore. 76,
 10, curtilitate. 86, 11, perquam dilucida. 89, 18, Liber sanè. 90, 4, Quod si
 91a, 3, effuso. 107, 4, significatum. 109, 23, Calamptaci. 110, 9, Editio Latina.

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 Γηθόσασιν, χαρὶν φήμιον ἐρχομένην.
 Ἀλλ' ἔτι δὴ πρὸς αὐτοὺς παρὰ χήλῃσιν ἄσπον
 Μάλλε τ' ἐπιμβαίνειν πρὸς βοδὴν αὐτοῦ
 Ἀνδρες, καὶ βρυχίοισιν. ὑπασπασθῆσαι διαίλοις,
 Ἀνδρὶ γὰρος, θαμβος περὶομένοις ἡμέρι.
 Ω φασγὰς, ὦ πυρὶς, ὦ τῆς καὶ ἐπ' ἀρλῶσιν ἡττο
 Εὐδομόχων δέμν, σαφροσύνης τε πόθον.
 Οὐδ' ὕβρις, ἐς ξίφος, ἐς ἅκ' ἄγασσε λογὸς ὁλέθρῳ
 Οὐδέ μιν ἡδ' ἀπλῆτε σβέσσε ρόος πηγάς.

In Funere Angeli Grylli Abbatis.
 Sub Tabula Religionis Divi Benedicti.

Κῦδος ἔλιν τιμείαςιν· ἐμοὶ Βενέδικτος ἐν ἀρχῇ,
 Καὶ νῦν μεγάλην Ἀγγέλος ἄρ' ἐλπίς.

Sub Tabula Mœroris.

Πένθος ἐγὼ ποτ' ἔολπα γόνυ πρὸς γήθειν ῥέψαι.
 Τρύλλε δ' οἰχομένη γήθειος ἐλπίς ἔδω.

Sub Tabula Poëscos.

Ἀσματος ἡδὺ κέρσασαν· ὄνειρος ἐφ' ἡδὺ πολλοὶ.
 Χρῆλιν, ἡδὺ, σέβας Τρύλλος ἐπλάξε μόνος.

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THE
PISSE-PROPHET,
OR,
CERTAINE PISSE-POT
LECTURES.

Wherein are newly discovered the old
fallacies, deceit, and juggling of the Pisse-pot
*Science, used by all those (whether Quacks and
Empiricks, or other methodicall Physicians)*
who pretend knowledge of Diseases, by
the Urine, in giving judgement
of the same.

By THO. BRIAN, M. P. lately in the Citie
of London, and now in Colchester
in ESSEX.

Never heretofore published by any man
in the *English* Tongue.

Si populus vult decipi, decipiatur.

LONDON,
Printed by E. P. for R. Thrale, and are to be
sold at his shop at the signe of the Crosse-
Keyes, at Pauls gate.

1637.

THE
PISSE-PROPHET
 OR
CERTAIN PISSE-PROPHET
 LECTURES.

Wherein are newly discovered the
 fallacious, deceitful, and lying of the Pisse-
 prophets, and how they are detected by
 the true and knowledge of the Pisse-
 prophets, in giving judgment
 of the same.

By **THO. BRIAN, M. P.** lately in the City
 of London, and now in Exile
 in France.

Never before so fully illustrated by any man
 in the English tongue.

A second edition, corrected and enlarged.

LONDON,


Printed by **A. R. T. T. T.**, and are to be
 sold at his shop at the sign of the Cross.
 Kew, at T. T. T. T.

1757.



THE PREFACE,

To the Right Honourable,
right Worshipfull, whether more
or lesse dignified, who have been or here-
after may be my Patients, as also to
the courteous or discourteous
Reader.

 Our Honour, Worship, or other
worthinesse whatsoever (good
Reader) hath often heard it spo-
ken from the mouth of many a
well-read and experienced man
in Physicke, That (Urina est meretrix, vel
mendax) the Urine is an Harlot, or a Lier;
and that there is no certaine knowledge of any
Disease to be gathered from the Urine alone,
nor any safe judgement to be exhibited by the
same: You have been (likewise) often told, by
Physicians, that it were farre better for the
Physician to see his Patient once than to view

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his *Vrine* twenty times. But yet this hath not gained so much credit with you as it ought to have done, because you see the most of them (who tell you so) to entertaine the *Vrine* as the onely Index and discoverer of Diseases to pronounce their opinion of the sicke parties Disease by it, and to accept of being accounted skillfull in the judgement of water. Divers learned Physicians have likewise written divers Tracts therein discovering the dangers of raking Physick prescribed onely by the sight of the *Vrine*, to this end that they might dispossesse men of that fond opinion, of a Physicians discerning diseases by it, wherewith they have been so long time deluded. To this purpose hath Dr Cotta written a Booke (called, A short discoverie of the unobserved dangers of severall sorts of ignorant and inconsiderate practisers of Physicke in England) wherein, amongst other Tracts of the severall abusers of Physicke, he hath written one Treatise of the Conjectours by *Vrines*: therein shewing the fallshood, and incertain judgement of Diseases by the *Vrine*. He hath also therein set downe the ingenuous confession of a dying Physician (made to him being then present with him some three or foure dayes before his departure)

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ture; who, being requested to commend unto posterity that skill by which hee had beene so much admired and esteemed, for judging women to be with childe by their Urine, made this answer. I have (saith he) long with the felicity of a good opinion exercised it, and with tryed certainty know it to be uncertainty, and certaine deceit: It is therefore unworthy posterity, and the name of Art. Reade the Tract above mentioned, and you shall see this confession further amplified. If you please to take my confession too, you shall have it: I for mine owne part have been so fortunate herein, that I have seldome failed in my predictions of determining a woman to be with childe by the Urine, as I have made them beleve, when the messenger hath been able to certifie me of the state of the womans body, and could answer me to certaine other questions touching other signes of conception. Above all the rest, I was once magnified by a Counsellors wife for this cunning cozenage (I am not ashamed to terme it so) at a festivall meeting at Canterbury, in the presence of two (as I take it) other Doctours of Physicke: She told them to their faces that I was the cunningst Doctour in all the Towne, for I had told her by her water that she was with child, and

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just how long it was since she conceived of it: But had the woman shew'd me (that brought it) no more than the Urine did, I should scarce have adventured to have pronounced her to have been with childe: Yet I might (knowing the Gentlewoman, how long it was since she had a child, and the distance that she commonly kept in child-bearing, as also that she nursed her children her selfe) have pronounced her, and that upon some probable conjecture, to have beene with child, though the messenger could not have answered me to such interrogatives (as we use to demand of them before we pronounce a woman to be with childe) nor the Urine shew (as it doth not) any thing concerning conception at all. I dare say, that the good Gentlewoman is very confident that I determined her to be with childe by the sight of her Urine onely, because I did not intimate any thing to the contrary: Neither is she to be so much blamed for her credulity, as I for my jugling. But to make her and other good women amends (whom I have thus beguil'd) I have in this ensuing Tract set downe the fallacies, by which I judged her, and every other Physician doth judge every other woman to be with childe; as also, by which we give judgement of the Disease, Sex, and the like, seeming

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to doe it onely by the *Vrine*: which have not heretofore beene published (though too much practized of most) by any man in the English tongue. Doctor Hart (in his Booke intituled *The Anatomie of Urines*) hath by sufficient argument and demonstration, confuted the *Pisse-Canons*, or *Conjectures of Urines*, taken from the severall accidents of the same (as the severall colours, parts, contents, substance, quantity, smell) and shewed their fallshood in all these, and the many absurdities that have been committed by pretending knowledge of Diseases by all these; I thought it likewise fit to set downe the fallacies; by which judgement of Diseases is given by the *Vrine*, to the end that the writings of other men (who have written against this base custome of water-propheying) may gaine the more credit, and for the further satisfaction of such as yet remaine doubtfull whether there be any judgement to be taken from the *Vrine* sufficient to determine the disease. To this end therefore I have set downe the fallacies which have upheld this custome of prating, and predicating strange things by the *Vrine*: And I have pen'd them in the English tongue, because that meere Englishmen (I meane the common people) who un-

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derstand Englishonly, are and ever have ben most
subject to be deceived and deluded. I hope
therefore that no Artist will be offended hereat,
for I dare say that there is no ingenuous man,
but is of mine opinion, and would as gladly (as
I my selfe) that this base custome, of Lecturing
upon the Urine, were overthrowne and abroga-
ted. What I have therefore done to this pur-
pose, I intreat the courteous Reader to accept
in as good part, as I have been willing to im-
part the same: And for as much as I have
been guilty of this fraud, though I have not
long used it, let it suffice that it repenteth me
of the same, for I meane never hereafter to shew
my cunning, or rather cozening, upon the water,
and hope that other men will helpe to beate down
this custome, or else all that I have written will
be to little purpose. However it will some thing
delight the understanding and impartiall Rea-
der, and might profit the ignorant, if they
would make use of it to that end for which it
was penn'd. As for the stile, and method of
it it is poore and meane; but such as best
sutes with such a poore, base, and stinking sub-
ject. I have been enforced a little beyond my
own nature, and disposition, to bee somewhat
sober in lecturing upon the Urine, for which
cause

The Preface.

cause I may incurre censure of the graver and more modest people: If I have herein offended, I crave their pardon, for I could not well avoid it: And let them not taxe me of levity, or lasciviousnesse, for my life and conversation hath, and shall for ever testifie the contrary. Howbeit I can claime no priviledge from backbiters, nor immunity from malignant tongues; I refuse to be tryed by a prejudicate opinion, or the malignant spirit of contradiction; and appeale unto the learned, judicious, and impartiall Reader, to whom (if I have erred) for it is Humanum errare) I submit for censure; if need be, for correction. And for as much as (I feare) that the greatest detractors that I shall finde (though it be an old saying that the Arts, Nullum habent inimicum præter ignorantem, have no enemy but the ignorant man) are offenders in this kinde; I admonish you (brother Pisse-Prophet) that you be not too busie in playing the Criticke upon mee, because I have (in confessing mine owne folly) reproved your wickednesse, which you will hardly forsake. As for the censure of the ignorant (whom you help to retain in this prejudicate opinion) I regard it not. Hos oblatrantes caniculos cum contemptu,

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temptu, prætereo; I passe by these barking
Curses (as the Lion doth) with disdain. But
if you kick (whose gall'd back I have rub'd, and
whose sore I have lanced) who are conscious to
your selfe of your owne guiltinesse herein, I shall
rub harder and lance deeper: and yet (if you
kick over-much) I shall finde a Lash to quiet
you. I pray therefore let me have your good
word, lest you need mine. And so in hope that
the learned, judicious, and impartiall Reader
will pardon my errours, and that the ignorant
Reader will become wiser, and that the delin-
quent Reader will become honest, I rest

Yours, T. B.



The Pisse-prophet.

CHAP. I.

Wherein is shew'd the errour of the common people (who thinke that Diseases are to be discerned by the Urine) and the fallacies of the Physician, who intimate the same unto them: As also, what is to be considered of the Physician before he pronounce his judgement of an Urine.

THE vulgar sort are so strongly prepossest (by reason of their ignorance) that Physicians can discern (by the Urine) the Disease, the conception, the sexe, the parties age, with many other such absurdities, that I feare it will bee an hard matter to dispossesse them of that opinion. And Physicians (the more too blame they) have intimated and pretended this knowledge unto them so farre, as that they will hardly acknowledge their errors, and relinquish this basery: But when it shall appeare that the Urine is altogether

The Pisse-Propbet,

gether deceitfull, and the Physician (that pretend knowledge of Diseases thereby) to give his judgement of it by such fallacies and juggling as shall be shewed and set forth by me in this ensuing Discourse: Let the ignorant choose whether he will believe his lying oracle or no, and let the Physician choose whether hee will be honest than to use such deceit. Yet (I hope) the one will blush to have been so deluded, and the other to have his conjecturing discovered. And now mee thinks you long to hear how it is (the Urine giving no certaine knowledge of any Disease in the world) that Pisse-mongers (for they deserve not the name of a Physician that pretend knowledge of Diseases by it) doe give judgement of it, and make thee believe that they discern Diseases by it, than the which nothing in the world is more false. But would you so faine know how this can be? Why thus it is, for I will now hold you no longer in expectation; I must therefore give unto your speciall consideration two things, (and then I will descend to all the particular Quillers and fallacies that deceive the ignorant) used in the contemplation and beholding of an Urine, which make a man presume to give judgement of Diseases by it. Observe now with me, that the two things to be considered are these; namely, that Diseases are either *acute, sharpe*, and violent, as the Plurisie, Peripneumonia (which is the Apostumation, and inflammation of the Lungs) the Phrenzie, Iliaca Passio, the small Pox, Pestilence, and every

The differences of diseases.

every sharp Fever; Or else diseases they are Chronicall (that is of continuance) and lingering, such as proceed from the ill temperature of the humours and disposition of the constitution of the body, such as are the Consumption, Dropfie, Melancholy, Gout, Palsie, Falling-Sicknesse, Chacheria (which is a depravation of the humours of the body, whereby it taketh away, in man or woman, the appetite from meat, makes the body unfit for exercise, and marres the liveliness of the spirits and countenance) and this disease in women is commonly called the Greene Sicknesse, and it makes both men and women Greene indeed. But (to omit all circumstances that may be) the Physician alwayes beares these two considerations in minde, namely, that diseases are either Acute, Sharpe, and Violent, or Chronicall, and of continuance, and more gentle, as aforesaid, &c. Now, for the most part, the common sort of people come or lend their Waters unto Physicians for Acute, Sharpe, and Violent diseases: as the Countrey-man or Handycrafts-man (who use to labour) for some Surfet (as they call it) taken by catching cold (as they thinke) after sweating at their severall labours, and your better sort of people (as they thinke themselves, because they use no labour) for a Surfet taken by idlenesse, as sitting in the Sunne, walking, sporting, drinking of Wine, eating over-much, or such meat as their stomach hath not well digested, and the like. You must likewise note, that every sharpe disease hath an hot and burning nature.

*How the
Physician
judgeth of
such diseases
by the Urine*

ning Fever joyned with it, and that the Urine (for the most part) in a burning Fever, is of an intense high red colour; and this colour, amongst all the other uncertaine signes of Urine (which seeme to shew a disease, to put a difference betweene sharpe and Chronicall diseases, and to discover a Fever only) is the most certaine of all other, and yet uncertaine in it selfe. Such a Urine being brought unto a Physician to cast (as they call it) and being of a red high colour (as I said before) he presently conceives it to be a sharpe and violent disease, and then knowes for certaine, that there is a Fever joyned with it; so he is now quickly prepared to give his judgement of it, and needs now to doe no more, but to give a description of a Fever, to make the messenger beleieve that he perceives the disease in the Water; but yet he comes to the true knowledge of the disease, by some such parly and expostulation had with the messenger, as shewes the symptomes and affects of the sick partie (though he seeme to have named them in the description of the disease to the messenger) which truly determine the disease: and then he names the disease, looking upon the Water (as if it were there to be found) in such manner as shall be hereafter shewed; which makes the messenger to beleieve so indeed. Now the description of a Fever (and indeed one description will serve for any Fever, and for all sharpe and violent diseases) is but to reckon up the Symptomes and signes of a Fever (the which we know before that
ever

over we looke upon the Water) which are these:
namely; great oppression of the stomach by choler,
 or some other humour, which causeth want of ap-
 petite to meat; oppilation and obstruction of the
 liver and spleene, causing great heat (which cau-
 seth great drought, and much desire of drinke)
 causing great paine in the head and backe, which
 likewise causeth want of sleepe and rest, from
 whence proceedeth (oftentimes) raving, franticke
 doing, senselesse and idle talke. Now to say that
 the sicke party is thus affected (for indeed so they
 are for the most part in every respect, but at the
 least in some kinde, in every violent disease) makes
 the messenger to thinke, that the Doctor doth
 perceive (that the partie is so affected) by the
 Urine, which (by Yea and by Nay) is no such mat-
 ter: I for he dares not alway trust to this high red
 Urine, as an infallible signe of a Fever; for it may
 chance to be of such a colour by some other acci-
 dent, when the partie that made it, is free from a
 Fever. But admit that the high red colour of the
 Urine did alway (as it doth for the most part) im-
 port a Fever, yet the Symptomes and companions
 of a Fever (as heat, drought, thirst, paine in the
 head, want of sleepe, oppression of stomach, want
 of appetite, oppilation of the liver and spleene, or
 any one of these) are not therein to be seene,
 though it please his worship to play the Anticke
 with the Water, pretending that there are such
 marks in it, as shew all these things that I have
 named. Neither doth he presume to name these
 Symp-

*Signes of a
sharp dis-
ease.*

*That a high
and red co-
loured Urine
is not always
one infallible
signe of a
Fever.*

Symptomes (as heat, drought, thirst, &c.) from any signes thereof in the Urine, but for that he knoweth by dayly experience, that the fore-named Symptomes and companions of a Fever (as heat, drought, thirst, &c.) are necessarie consequences, and inseparable concomitants of a Fever: And yet (oh the pride of man, in seeming to be what he is not!) the Pisse-Prophet doth pretend, that he perceiveth all these things in the Water. These things being premised, I hope thou wilt be the better able to judge of that which followeth, and perceive how easie a thing it is to give judgement of diseases by the Urine (though it be not there to be seene) and wilt conceive the fallacies that uphold this custome, and so learne to put a difference betweene an honest learned plaine-dealing Physician and a prating Empirick, and a Rogue. I will now (for this once) imagine my selfe to be one of them, and to be in my Chamber or Study ready addressed to come forth, to give my judgement upon that high red Water (that importeth a Fever, and so a violent disease) that I last spake of, and will plainly shew you (by the examination of three such severall Urines, brought by three severall messengers) in three severall Chapters, how to give judgement of all acute, sharpe, and violent diseases, by the last description of the Symptomes of a burning Fever.

CHAP. II.

What manner of persons your Pisse-messengers are, how they are handled, deluded, and made to shew how the sicke partie is affected, and yet to beleeve that the Doctour perceiveth the Disease by the Urine.

I Have here already such a Messenger (attending my leisure to give my judgement upon such a Urine) who, being conducted to my presence, salutes my worship with good morrow Master Doctour, and indeed the morning is the most usuall and fit time for the viewing of Urines: The Queene at *Darkin* hath gotten that Art, that she would not prophesie thereof after eleven of the clocke: And having thus saluted me, presents me the Urine, saying, Sir I desire your opinion of this water, and to tell me (though the sick partie know that too too well already) what the partie ayleth, and what the Disease is; the messenger (whether man or woman) you must note, is one who is, as it were, made out of waxe, whom a Physician cannot deceive (neither would hee if he could) nor yet learne any thing out of him touching the Disease, unlesse hee himselfe first have named it, and yet hee will make a shift to mould him into any forme that shall fit his purpose

pose best, and make him by impertinent questions (as he shall thinke) to tell him any thing, concerning the sicke partie, that hee shall desire to know, and yet (like *Hocus Pocus* who makes his ignorant Spectatours to thinke that the Balls are under the Cups, though hee have conveyed them away by sleight of hand, and when they see that, to deeme him a Conjuror) to thinke that he hath discovered nothing, and me to be a skilfull Physitian and an honest man, when as indeed there is no such matter; for neither is *Hocus Pocus* a Conjuror, though by his nimble conveyance he have deluded his filly beholder, or so much a knave as they thinke him, because he hath not done it by any unlawfull assistance; neither am I so skilfull a Physitian, though I have made the messenger beleieve that I perceive strange things by the Water, because I doe but deceive the messenger; nor so honest a man as I am esteemed, though I carry the matter very faire, because I doe not ingenuously confesse to the messenger, and so to every body else when I shall have occasion to discourse about it, that there is no certaine judgement of any disease by the Urine, but out of pride pretend knowledge of diseases by it, and to backe this knowledge blush not to use such deceit and fallacies as hereafter follow. But now to returne to the Urine from the Physician and the fool, the Messenger: *This Urine*, if brought out of the Countrey, is for the most part in a glasse-bottle, but (if onas in the Citie) it is brought

*The manner
of the pro-
ceeding of
Urine-ga-
ses.*

brought in an Urinall; it is likewise red and high of colour, and that (for the most part) betokeneth a Fever. I now therefore (before that ever I can poure the water out of the bottle, or take the Urinall out of the Case) rip up all the Symptomes of a Fever, and say, This partie hath a great oppression of stomach and no appetite to meate, a great oppilation and obstruction of the Liver and Spleene, is very hot and dry, desireth much to drinke, hath a great paine in the head and can take no rest, and was taken in the manner of an Ague with a grooving in the backe and paine in the head, first cold and then hot, reckning up all these things (as if I saw them there so soone as ever I looke into the water) so fast as ever I can make my tongue belie my heart. And with this description I have made the messenger admire my readinesse and skill in judging of Urines, and he verily beleeves that I have espied these things in the water; but it is farre otherwise; for these things (that I have reckoned up) are but the usuall Symptomes and companions of a Fever, and the most of them are joynd with every Fever, and all of them and many moe at once are complicate with many a Fever. These things being so, I cannot but have hit the nayle on the head, for some of those Symptomes that I have reckoned up, must needs accompany the disease; and when I have once named them, the messenger presently answers, that the partie is just so affected as I have said: But (as yet) I have not named the disease, and

perhaps omitted something which is expected that I should have named : and the messenger is as ready then to aske me if I perceive nothing else by the water, as I was to pronounce my judgment of it before : To whom I answered, yes if you will give me leave to tell you ; and then perchance asks me if I doe not perceive a stitch, and whether the party have not a Plurisie, I answer (looking upon the water as if it were there to be perceived) yes I well perceive the stitch, and some cough too ; and I say, that when the cough takes the partie, the partie is much pained in the side ; and for as much as I did not name the stitch at first, I tell the messenger that we use first to declare the cause of the disease before we come to every passion or affect of the disease, or before we name it : I further adde that I was not yet come to speake of the stitch (no nor should never have found it out of the water, had not the messenger bolted it out) because I had named the cause thereof, namely, the oppression of the stomach and obstruction of the Spleene, and mesentery, and that the stitch was nothing else but a flatuous and windie humour proceeding from thence to the place affected ; so now I determine the disease to be (as they suppose) a Plurisie ; And indeed they can better define their owne diseases by the Symptomes and passions that they suffer, than any Physician can doe by the water onely. But now as I have been happy in my predictions of the disease, and rightly determined it to be (as it is indeed)

indeed) a Plurisie; so now I must proceed to the prescription (as it is required) of such remedies as may cure this Plurisie: And now I am here as farre to seeke (though I know the disease to be a Plurisie) as if I knew not the disease at all, nor had seen the Urine, because I doe not therein perceive the scope and grounds of prescribing fit remedies (according to the rules of Art) in every respect proper to the disease; *The which scope and indication grounds are these (namely) the parties age, the of curing.* sexe, the constitution of the body, and the strength of it at this time, with divers other accidents, as whether the party be bound in his body, or have a flux and scouring, or the like: All the which nor any one of them can be discerned by the Urine, & yet I must finde them there if the messenger refuse to tell me (but that they seldome refuse to doe after that I have given them a description of the disease, and shewed them in some part how the partie is affected) or else I must needs erre in my prescription; for if I should prescribe (not knowing the age of the partie) such a quantitie of blood to be taken away from a young youth (suppose ten or twelve ounces) in a Pluresie, which is the disease in hand, as should be taken from a man in his full strength, the partie might perish thereby; or if I should take but foure or five ounces of bloud from a lusty young man (in this disease) at his full strength, I should doe him no good, and so he might perish on the other side: I might likewise erre in the dose, if (not knowing the parties age)

age) I should prescribe more or lesse than were proportionable to the parties age in prescribing purging Potions or Clysters in this case; I might likewise commit no lesse error if (not knowing the sexe) I should in the forenamed disease prescribe blood-letting to a woman, her naturall courses being broke forth upon her; for I might by that accident expect a solution of the disease without blood-letting. I might likewise erre, if (knowing the sexe) I should prescribe purging Physicke for a woman in this case (not knowing whether she be with child or no) of such a quality as might cause her to miscarry: I might erre concerning the constitution of the body if I should (not knowing the same) prescribe that for a weakly constitution of body which were fitter for a robustuous and strong constitution: and so on the contrary. I might likewise erre if I should (not knowing the strength of the body at this time) prescribe too strong a Potion, or too much blood to be taken away, when the disease hath overcome the strength and the partie is too much debilitated, or if I should prescribe too gentle a potion, or too little blood to be taken away when the strength is not yet dejected, but stands in equall contestation with the disease. I could shew a thousand wayes more how I could erre, and how most Physitians doe erre that prescribe Physicke by the sight of the Urine only: But my intent is to shew how many thousand wayes I could deceive thee and make thee beleve that I discern all

all these things by the Urine (as thou thinkest I do) namely the disease, the parties age, sexe, strength, constitution of body, and the like: I have therefore digressed herein from my purpose (since my intent was not to shew the errors that are committed by such as pretend knowledge of diseases by the Urine, but to shew the fallacies and juggling that they use in giving judgment of it) and so frustrated thy expectation of this dainty Art; but I hope it shall be to thy profit, for thou shalt hereby be the better able to give thy Physitian such instructions as he shall require, and shalt perceive the danger of taking Physick prescribed by the sight of the Urine only: And now to the purpose indeed; but first imagine with me, that the last messenger, having received good satisfaction by the description of the parties disease for whom he came, was ready to certifie me of all the forenamed circumstances that were requisite for me to inquire of, as the parties age, sexe, constitution of body, present strength, how long the partie had been sicke, &c.

And I have sent him away with *such remedies as* *Medicaments for a Pleurisie.* were most proper for his Pleurisie, directions for blood-letting to mitigate his Fever, some pectorall Physick to ease his cough, with a Liniment to mollifie, and to dispell wind, to anoynt his side withall for his stich, and wish him to repaire unto me again within a day or two to certifie me of the successe of the Physicke, and how the partie stands now affected, that if need require, I may supply him with further advise. Now in all this (I hope)

I have not erred, save only that I forgot to tell the messenger that the partie was very dangerously sicke, and would hardly recover, but yet I have prescribed him the best meanes that can, by the art of man, be for his recoverie, and I pray God to give his blessing. and so I have quite dispatched this messenger. And now whether the partie live or dye I shall be sure to be magnified for my skill; if he die, for that my predictions prove true; and if he live, for that I recovered him of so dangerous a disease. And now I am ready to encounter with the next messenger, who likewise brings me another Urine of an high red colour, in giving judgement upon which I will plainly shew how a man may give judgement of all other sharpe and violent diseases by the water (though it doe not certainly shew any Symptomes of any disease, which determine the same) and how thou shalt get out of the messenger every circumstance necessary to the judging and determining of a disease, as the age, sexe, and strength of the partie, and to the guiding of a man in prescribing of fit remedies, and yet he shall not perceive but that thou findest them in the Urine; *Sed hoc est decipere, non judicare;* but this is to juggle, and not to judge.

CHAP. III.

The craftiest messengers must be the more craftily handled: the action and gesture of the Physician in giving judgement of an Urine: that we come to the knowledge of the disease, and sex by pertinent questions (as they thinke) put to the messengers, and not by the Urine: the cunning tricks that Physicians have to make the messengers confident of their (falsly) pretended skill; and the flammies that they have to evade censure, if they chance to erre in the pronouncing of their judgement.

Suppose this next messenger to be some Nurse or tender of sick persons, who is commonly versed, and accustomed in carrying sick folks Urines unto Physicians; and she salute me, with Master Doctor, I have brought you a Water, and desire your opinion of it: and now I am like to have a hard taske of it, and to be so put to my trumps, that (if I play not my cards sure) I shall lose the set, miscarry in my judgement, be accounted a dunce, and lose my patient for ever; but I will be aware of that, I warrant you. I now therefore take this crafty wench to doe, and I will handle her as craftily; I take the Urine of her, and bid her come from the doore of my Parlour, Stru-

How crafty
messengers
may be de-
ceived.

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dy, or Chamber (where they commonly stand,) unto the window, or light, where I commonly give my oracle; and indeed, a man had need of a good light, and a better sight, that shall perceive all these things that I must find out of this Urine. Being come to the light (as I am uncausing the Urinall to looke upon it,) I aske the Nurse a question, not whose water it is (for that she is enjoyed, nay conjured, not to tell me, especially if it be a womans, nor any thing else, unlesse I first find it out of the water) but my question is; How long the patty hath beene sick; And she out of modesty and good manners, can doe no lesse but answer me to this question, for she thinkes this question to be but words of course, and that I can gather nothing from hence touching the parties disease; and so she answeres me a weeke, a fortnight, two or three dayes, or more or lesse. But from hence I collect and have strong presumptions that it is an acure disease; and if she say, A fortnight, I shall thinke it to be only an acure disease and of the lesse danger, unlesse there have another Physician beene imployed already, the which I shall be sure to know; and if there have, I shall go neere to strike his nose out of joynt, and gaine the patient to my selfe, and then (if I recover him) I shall get immortall fame; but if he chance to die, I will make a shift to shuffle off the disgrace upon my brother Doctor, for that (as I will say) such and such meanes were not used at the first, though haply he have used as good a
me-

thode as my selfe could have done: But if she say that the party hath beene sick a weeke, I shall thinke it is a more acute disease, whether there have another Physician beene imployed or no. But if she say three or foure dayes, I then presume that it is a most sharpe disease, and now I will so plant and interest my selfe in the party, as that I will prevent anothers comming there, unlesse it be to a person of quality, and then I will be as ready to desire another Physician to be called, as the sick party shall be to request it, not so much that I desire his aide, or would have him partake with me in the booty, as in the disgrace, if the party should chance to die. And now I know (by this question, as also the Water, being high and red, witnessing the same) that it is an Acute disease: And now I take the Urinall in my hand, and hold it up to the light, and (looking very little upon it) I shake it together, and set it downe very artificially in the window asloop, as if I meant to inquire further of it anone, and that it must stand so a while; and indeed it must stand so a while, and I must looke but lightly upon it at first, or else I shall not have so good an evasion if I erre never so litle, nor so fit an opportunity to propound another question to the setting me forward in the pronouncing of my opinion, or to the inquiry of some other circumstance (necessary to the guiding me in prescribing fit remedies) as the parties Age, Sexe, Strength, and the like, for this wench will be sure to hold me to my text. And now

now go along with me still, and conceive with me that it is a sharp disease (as appeareth by her answer) and that I have no sooner asked her how long the party hath beene sick, and set downe the Urinall in the window (as I said before) but that I presently say, This party hath a great oppression of Stomach, no appetite to meate, with a great oppilation of the Liver and Splene, is very hot, desireth much to drinke, hath a great paine in the head, and can take no rest, and was taken in the manner of an Ague (as they call it) with a grooving in the backe, and paine in the head, first cold and then hot, as I said in giving my judgement upon the last Urine; and indeed this description will serve for any acute disease, whether it be the Pleurisie, the small Pox or Measels, a fit of the stone in the Kidneis, the Squinancy, Phrensie, Iliaca Passio, the Arthritis, or what other sharp disease soever, wherewith there is a Fever alwayes complicate, or whether it be a simple Fever which is primarily the disease it selfe; but yet I will not alwayes use the same description to all commers, because divers messengers may come to a Physician, and may stay for companies sake to goe away together, and might fall to questioning with each other what the Doctour said unto them, and so might thinke (if I should use the same description unto them all) that I could say nothing else. I therefore vary my description of the disease, and am sometimes shorter in the same, and then (if I find by expostulation with the messenger

*Why uniformity in
judging is
not to be
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senger that I have omitted any thing that I should have spoken of) I say that it proceeded from such a cause as I had already named, and that I should have come to speake of that anon; I am sometimes likewise larger in my description, as I am here in relating how the party is affected, for whom this Nurse comes: and she is as ready to take me up for the same, and sayes, that it is true indeed, that the party can take no rest, hath no appetite to meate, and was taken (as I said) in the manner of an Ague, but complains not of her stomach at all, but cries out, My head, my head, and complains altogether of want of rest; To whom I reply, that the paine in the head is the chiefe of the passions that the party is affected withall, but yet that it proceed d from the oppression of the stomach, and oppilation of the Liver and Spleene, which being obstructed, send a cholericke fume unto the braine, which inflame the Animall spirits, and cause this paine which hindred rest, and that (if rest were not caused) it would make the party rave, be franticke, and burst forth into senselesse, and idle talke. Thus having answered this objection, I now begin to touch the Urinall, to see if it have setled enough, but finding it not to have setled enough to my purpose, and to shew me those things that I must finde out of it, I set it downe againe very tenderly, saying, it must yet settle alittle better; and then I fall to questioning with the Nurse concerning something that may shew me the sexe, for I must find that out of the water

ter

ter too; And now I aske her, what the party useth to doe in the time of health, and this is a question that may (she thinkes) as well be answered without giving me any light of the sexe, as the former question (which was, How long the party had beene sicke) of giving me any light of the disease; but you shall heare what I collect from thence. She answers, I demanding what the party useth to do, that the party useth to do little, save onely to goe up and downe the house, to worke about the house, to walke up and downe abroad, to keepe a shop, to labour, or the like; and from all these I have my severall collections. Now if she say, that the party useth to doe little, save onely to goe up and downe the house, I presume that it is the Mistresses of the house, or the good-wives, or one of their daughters, or some Gentlewoman in the house, but for certaine, that it is a womans water, or a maides, for they should, and commonly doe (if their shooes be not made of running leather) keepe their house, and their worke is to walke up and downe the house; but if she say, the party useth to doe such worke as is to be done in or about the house, it is most likely that it is a maid-servant, but if she say to walke abroad, I then presume that it is a mans water, and that it may be the Master of the house, or his sonnes, or some other Gentlemans, whose worke and employment is onely to walke abroad and take his pleasure; but if she say, to keepe a shop, I suppose it to be the Masters thereof, or an he Apprentice

prentice his; or if she say, that the party useth to labour, I imagine it to be a man-servant, or some hired labouring mans; so by her answer to this question, namely, what the party useth to doe in the time of health, I discern the sexe. And now I take the Urinall againe in my hand (for by this time it hath stood long enough to settle) and now I say that it is a womans water, suppose that her answer to my question (What the party used to doe in the time of health) did inferre as much, that she hath a burning Fever, is so dangerously sicke that she will hardly recover, unlesse such and such speedy meanes be used, and yet that All will scarce doe; and this danger I will alwayes pretend in every Violent disease, though there be no deadly signe at all; but not to the sicke parties (for that they cannot indure to heare of) but secretly to the messenger, or some neere friend, or by-stander, if I be present with them; and then if the party live, I shall not so much as have my judgement called in question, for saying the party would die, but be magnified for that I have recovered her of a dangerous disease; nay, to be sure to be happy in my predictions and prognosticks concerning the life and death of my Patients (for they must alwayes have a hint of that, although the thought of death be an unwelcome guest) I will deliver mine opinion both wayes; I will threaten, or rather pretend the danger of death to the sicke party (if my opinion be desired,) with a But if such and such meanes be used, you may haply

haply recover: and to some by-stander or hanger on, I will secretly whisper that there is no danger at all: or else I will promise life to the Patient, which is altogether wished, and threaten death to some other inquisitor; and thus was a learned Doctour in Physicke over-matched by a meaner Practicant in Physicke, at Ashford in Kent who used this policy in his prognosticks. I have for mine owne part and office, herein delivered my selfe well enough to this Nurse in my prognosticks concerning the event of the womans sickness, for whom she is come: I have told her how the woman is affected, what the disease is, and what will be the event; and the Nurse is reasonable well satisfied herewith, but yet I have omitted something, that she will be sure to tell me of, for since she hath undertaken the matter, she will not goe without her errand. So, now she asks me if I perceive nothing else by the water, and I imagine well enough what it is else that I should perceive by it, for when that question is propounded, it is to know whether the woman be with child or no: to whom I answer, that there are many moethings to be perceived by the water (but not at all times) as whether a woman were with child or no, which is that you looke for; but it is not now to be seene in this water, because her body is all out of temper, and her water troubled and discoloured, but yet I thinke her to be, and well I may, if she her selfe thinke so; I further tell her, that I could have certainly

told,

told, (but yet I lie,) if she had brought her water in the time of her health: and so she is satisfied for that matter, and confesseth that she is with child indeed. Having thus satisfied her in all these things, told her that it is a woman's water, in what manner she was sicke, what was her disease, that it was likely that she was with child (which proves true) and that she would scarce recover (which is no great matter whether she doe or no) I now begin to close with her, and aske her whose water it is; but she will not tell me, and I commend her for it, for she was forbid, and therefore hath vowed the contrary; and indeed she was sent onely to heare mine opinion of the water, the which, if she like, shall haply heare further from the party, but if not, she hath order to goe to another Pisse-Prophet, and so if she like not his opinion neither, from him to another, untill she come to him that hits the disease rightest (as she conceives) by the water, and he (I dare say, the most foole and knave of all the three) is the man that shall be made choise of to cure this woman; and this is thought great policy in making choice of an able Physician. It behooves me therefore to be my crafts master in this Art, for else you see here how I am like to be nosed of a Patient, and to have my skill call'd in question; for (if I cannot finde the disease by the water) they will soone conclude that I know not how to cure it. This Nurse tells me indeed (but if she had not told me, I should have perceived it) that she came to heare mine
C opinion

opinion of the water , and that the sicke party would send to me againe, when she had heard (she should have said , If she liked it) what was mine opinion , and I thinke I have fitted her , and now tell the Nurse, that it had been fitter they had sent for some present remedies , than to know the disease , or to heare mine opinion of it, so I hast her away with her oracle, bid her be sure to deliver it so as I had told her, and tell (but not to the sicke party) to some of her neere friends , how dangerously she is sicke , and that I would (if she thinke good to make use of me) use the best meanes to recover her that Art could lead me unto ; and now I bid her make all the hast that may be , but yet (before I let her goe) I thus bespeake her ; in faith Nurse, I commend thee that thou wilt doe thy errand handsomely , and make a Physician finde the disease out of the water , and not be gull'd (to tell how the party was affected) as many a foole would have done , but I hope I have shewed thee truly how the party is affected , and what is her disease , and given thee such satisfaction as will content them that sent thee : loe therefore here is for thy paines , because thou hast put me to it so handsomely , and so I give her , (fearing lest I should have erred, that she may maintaine my credit, and in hope of receiving a better fee , for being sent for) the crackd groat , or the Harry groat that was sent in stead of sixe pence, for casting this water ; nay , if it chance to be sixe pence indeed, she shall have it all , and so I shall be sure to have my

my message well done, and perhaps she will tell me that which she denied before; but if not, she will magnifie me for my skill, and I shall be sure to heare further from the party, and have the casting of all the waters that she can bring me; so I now send her away and laugh at her, and the Devill at us both: I laugh at her because I have cozend her, and the Devill, that he hath cozend us both, by making her to believe that I discerne all those things by the water that I told her, and making me to back my pretended knowledge by such fallacies. But doe not now imagine that I have been so long in hand with this Nurie, in giving judgement of this Urine, as I have been in penning the circumstances with the severall actions and gestures that I use in the examination of a Pisse pot, which I have set downe to helpe thy understanding, or so long as thou hast been in reading them; but that (as if she had been but now new come in) I take the Urinall of her, propound the first question, set downe the Urinall in the window, and pronounce a description of the disease: then propounding the other questions in order (as I have done before) I define or determine the disease, tell her that such and such meanes ought suddainly to be used, and so send her away; suppose therefore that she came but newly in, and is but now new gone out, and so I have done with her, and sent her away in a trice, and am ready for the next commmer. But stay here a little, let that messenger tary, and conceive with me how one may

the diversity of affections to be used in giving judgement from the Urine.

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ease.*

give his judgement of any sharpe disease by the water, (though it be not there to be seene,) in pronouncing my judgement upon this last Urine, for I cannot stand to instance upon many particulars : marke therefore the description that I gave to the Nurse of the last disease, which I determined to be a Fever, after that I perceived by the Nurses answer to my first question (which was, how long the party had been sicke) that it was a sharpe disease ; *now my description was this ;* that the party had a great oppression of stomach and no appetite to meate, a great oppilation of the Liver and Spleene, was very hot, desired much to drinke, had a great paine in the head, and could take no rest, and was taken in the manner of an Ague with a paine in the head, and grooving in the backe, first cold and then hot, the which description may serve for any sharpe disease in giving judgement of a water ; yet I doe not affirme, that in every sharpe disease the party is just thus affected in every respect, but for the most part, for if it chance to faile and be excepted against, I have shewed how to make it good to the messenger, and to serve the turne to satisfie him, and not the Physician and practisant in Physicke. Marke further, that in describing the disease, and shewing how the party is affected, I doe not yet define, determine, or name the disease, till I have expostulated with the messenger so farre, that I perceive the disease from thence, and have sounded enough out of him, to tell him any

any thing that he shall desire to know of me; and then I determine the disease to be (as the symptoms, when I have strictly examined them, shall agree with the messengers relation.) A Fever, the small Pox, or Measels, a Pleurisie, or the like, looking still upon the Urine, as if I found it there, whereas I hope you well perceive my fetches, which helpe me out, or else Dun might have stucke full fast in the mire. I hope also, that you perceive how easily a man may give his judgement of any other acute disease by the water, though it doe not shew it; and now a word or two with this other messenger, and then I shall have done with acute, sharpe, and violent diseases.

C 3 CHAP.

CHAP. IV.

The rude simplicity of such as send their Urine unto a Physician without any instructions how the party is affected: And the desperate hazard, that they put their lives in, who adventure to take Physicke prescribed only by the sight of the Urine.

NOW this messenger is as rough-hewed as he that sent him and is a very plain fellow in his holy-day Jacket and his busking Hose; he was call'd from making of Faggots, or from thrashing, to goe to the Doctour and carry this Pisse that is put up in the Vinegar bottle, and brought to me to judge of; and it is a very turbid water of a very high, darke, red colour, by which as also by the messenger, (for I can better tell, by the messenger, his gesture, time of comming, haste to be gone, and other circumstances, what the partie ayleth, how long he hath beene sicke, and whether it be a mans or womans water, than I or any Physician can doe by the Urine, especially if I lived in a Towne or Citie where I had much Country practice) I conceive it to be some Country Farmers, his sonnes, or mans, his *Hubber de boy* which is his man-boy, or halfe a man and halfe a boy: But which of them soever it be, hee hath borne

borne it out with head and shoulders (for so your Country people use to doe before they send to a Doctour) and wrastled so long with the disease, and been so often foyled out, for they doe not observe the orders in *Moore* or *Lincolns-Inne fields*, where if a man be three times foyled out, it is to stand for a fall, and he is to wrastle no more for that time, as that he can no longer stand, and yet he is to have one bout more with the disease who hath a cruell second in this Duell, even death it selfe: And now (if nature be not assisted by Art) this fellow, whose second I must be, is like to be put to the worst, and the disease is like to give him a flat fall upon his backe in his Grave, never to rise againe untill the resurrection. Therefore if I have any skill, I must shew it now or never: I now therefore take the water to examine it, and thinke to question with this messenger (as with the former) How long the partie hath been sicke, whose water it was, and to put him such other questions as might shew me such other circumstances which might shew mee the disease, and guide me in the prescribing fit remedies for the same; but he cannot answer mee one question, not whose water it is, nor how long the party hath been sicke, no nor whether it be a mans or a womans water; much lesse the constitution of the body, the present strength of it at this time, or whether the partie be bound or loose in his body, with divers other such circumstances, all the which are so necessary for me to know, as that

without the knowledge thereof I cannot safely prescribe any Physicke, and yet this fellow cannot tell me one word, for he saith that he was not told, but was onely hired to bring me the water, and to bid me send something to help the partie, and hath brought eightene pence or two shillings with him to pay for that which I shall prescribe or send; and all that he can say, is, that such a mans servant came to him to get him to come, but did not tell him whose water it was, nor how long the partie had beene sicke. And now what, on Gods Name, shall I doe in this case, for it is presumed that I know the disease by the water, and all other circumstances belonging to the same, which are requisite for to guide me in the prescribing of fit remedies, and I have pretended as much, and holpen to nurse up folkes in this folly, (as other Physicians have done before mee) by giving my judgement of diseases by the sight of the Urine, and backing my pretended knowledge by such fallacies as I have spoken of, without the which neither I nor any Physician in the world can give any judgement of a disease, nor come to the knowledge of such circumstances (unlesse the messenger, that brings it, tell us) as may guide us in the prescribing of safe medicines every way proper unto the disease. I must tell you therefore (for mine own part) that I have already, and doe for ever hereafter meane to steere a new course; yet I must, for this one time, prescribe for this fellow, who (being all this while out of
breath

breath with his last Arthleticke combate, and having caught such a wrinch, (though he played strong play, as that he will goe neere to fall the next bout) is expected to enter the sands, to revive the quartell, and to undertake the last encounter. I now therefore take the Urinall (since the messenger can tell me nothing) and looke better upon the water, as if I could tell miracles by it, for I must now make all the haste that may be to set him on foot, since he is so earnestly expected by his adversarie: Now looking upon the water, I perceive it to be very crasse, thicke, and turbid, in all places alike, of an intense, high, darke, red colour; and from thence I conceive, that according to the fopperous Pisse-maximes, and rules of our great Pisse-prognosticatours, there is a great commixture of superabundant humours, which the substance of it (as they say) being crasse, thicke, and turbid, sheweth; and that nature is not yet able to concoct these humours, for then there would be some separation in the Urine, and it would not be in all places alike, but would have sediment in the bottome, and be transparent in the upper part; I conceive also that he hath a great Fever, for that the colour sheweth, being red and high, and that there is great danger, for it is of an high darke red colour, tending to blacknesse. But yet I cannot tell what manner of Fever it is, for I cannot discern by the Urine (as common people suppose) the passions and affects of the sicke party, that determine the disease, and should

What is to be done, when no instruction can be had from the messenger.

should guide me in the prescribing fit remedies, and therefore I cannot tell whether it be best to let him blood, to give him a purging potion, or Clyster, or whether his body would now beare any of these, or whether I were best to give him something to make him sleepe, or some cooling Juleb, or some Cordiall Antidote to expell noxious humours from the vitall parts; now which of these methods I shall best use (for the messenger can tell me nothing) I know not, but however the matter is not great, for the party ventureth but his life, and why should not I adventure my skill against it? I now therefore pronounce the party to be sicke of a bastard Pleurisie (for, it is no matter what I say to this messenger,) or a Fever, and that the party would hardly recover, further adding, that hee should have beene let blood a weeke agoe, and that I feared it would now be too late, but yet I wish it to be done, for if any thing in the world recover him, it must be that; and if that do it, it is but Hab, Nab, but yet however, I must put it in practice; so now I hast away the messenger to get a Chirurgion to let him blood; and tell him where, and in what quantity it must be done, and now it is a question whether the disease, or the life be let out by this blood-letting: if blood offending in quantity, or corrupt blood (offending in quality) putrified by choller in the lesler veines, be let out, the disease may chance to be let out with it, and so *Mors* or Death may tarry for a sacrifice, till some other sicknesse

sicknesse take him upon more advantage. But if the good blood, seeming to be inflamed, be let out, when this Fever proceedeth from choller in the greater yeins, or from Flegme, or other mixt humours in the stomach, Spleene, or Mesentery, which ought to be purged, the life (instead of the disease) may be let out, by losse whereof the debt to God and Nature would be paid. But haply (instead of blood-letting, I prescribe at randome, (for so I must doe in either) some purging Potion, and so set the disease and a medicine together by the eares, & leave the successe to fortune. And now whether the patty live or die, I care not: for if he die, I have taught them to blame their owne negligence, in not sending any sooner; but if Nature be of such force, that she be able to withstand the conflict betweene the disease and the Antidote, and start up, and take part with the Medicine, so that the party recover, I shall have more attributed unto me, (as the onely cause of his recovery) than I have deserved, or than to God, who in his providence, had beene pleased (by the worke of Nature, more than by any skill of mine) to spare and recover him: and thus you use to over-value the meanes, whereby (as you suppose) you have beene recovered, although used so desperatly (as I have prescribed for this fellow) by a methodicall Physician, professing knowledge of diseases by the Urine, or used quite contrary to the rules of Art, by some rude Empiricke and Quack-salving knave, especially,

cially, if you chance to recover, and to under-
 vale the best meanes in the world, used by the most
 grave and learned Physician, if the party chance
 to die: never satisfying your selves, when things
 are so come to passe, that it was Gods providence,
 saying, (*sic placuit Domino,*) it was Gods will
 it should be so, and so resting your selves conten-
 ted, but still tormenting your selves further, in
 thinking that this child, that friend, this brother,
 or that sister might have beene recovered, if the
 best meanes had beene used, as if God would not
 have directed thee unto that meanes, had it not
 beene his will now to take this party unto him-
 selfe. And now, I hope that you perceive by these
 few instances, how a man may deceive the wisest
 messenger that you can send unto a Physician with
 a water, and shew you the disease by the same,
 although it be not there to be found, and how
 great danger they put their lives in, that adven-
 ture to take Physicke prescribed by the sight of
 the Urine only: and so I have done with all sharp
 and violent diseases, and am now comming to
 speake of Chronicall, lingring, and diseases of
 continuance, wherein I meane to shew you how
 to give judgement of them by the water, though
 in those diseases, it shew lesse than in sharpe and
 violent diseases.

CHAP. V.

A Recapitulation of those things which have been spoken, touching the giving of judgement of the Urine in Acute and Violent diseases: and a Pre-capitulation of some things necessary to be premised touching Chronicall and diseases of continuance, before we come to the examination of the Pisse-messengers, as we have done in Sharpe and Violent diseases.

AND now, whereas I shew'd you (before that I came to instance and shew my cunning in giving judgement upon Urines in violent diseases) that diseases are either sharpe and violent, (the which I have spoken of) or Chronicall and of continuance, such as I am now to speake of next; and that, in sharp diseases, the Urine is for the most part of an high red colour, and that there is a Fever alwayes joyned with every sharpe disease; so I shewed you that one may give a description how any sicke party is affected in any violent disease, by rekonning up the common Symptomes and companions of a Fever (which are oppression of stomach, want of appetite, Heate, Thirst, Paine in the head, want of sleepe, &c.) and make the messenger believe that I perceive the disease by the water, because I shew
how

how the party is in some kind affected, the which neither I, nor any Physician in the world can perceive in, or by water, but gather by consequence, when we once conceive that it is a violent disease; for then we know that there is a Fever joyned, and that there are some of those Symptomes (that I named) joyned with it, but yet I doe not know what kind of Fever it is, nor what violent disease it is (and therefore I doe not name or determine it) untill I have expostulated with the messenger, in such manner as I have already shew'd, and thereby come to the knowledge of some specificall note, or difference, which determine the same.

I must now likewise give you to understand (before that I come to examine some few Urines, to shew you how I give my judgement of Chronicall diseases) that in Chronicall diseases (such as are the Droppe, Gout, Palsey, Falling sicknesse, Scurvey, French Pox, Greene sicknesse, Malacie, which is the disease of women newly conceived with childe, Cough, Head-ach, Mother, and such like) the Urine is no way faulty, but representeth the Urine of healthfull; nay, oftentimes the most healthfull men in the world: And yet the Physician (such a Urine being brought unto him) must sentence the partie that made it, to be sicke, upon no other prooffe but onely this lying strumpet, and false witnessse (the Urine) suborned by the beguiled and so selfe-conceited vulgar, and connived at by the Pisse-Justice or Judge, before whom shee

is brought, who is corrupted for a testar, sometimes for more and sometimes for lesse, and is contented to accept of her evidence for truth, when he knowes it to be a palpable lye that shee comes to affirme. She is indeed the dumbe messenger betweene the Doctour and his Patient, who (instead of passing the relation of his disease in writing, or by some discreet messenger) pisseth his minde in his water, and expecteth an answer; but if I should write him an answer in a letter written in the same language, I doubt he would scarce read it. How then shall I doe, who must answer his expectation, since the Urine in this case sheweth no disease at all? Or what oracle shall I give? Shall I say (such a water being brought unto me) I doe not perceive by this water that the partie that made it is sicke, or ayleth any thing; farre be it from me for thinking so: If I should returne such an honest plaine-dealing answer, both the messenger and he that sent him would perceive me to be diseased in my braine, without the casting of my water, and would presently say that I were troubled with the simples: For why (would they say) have I sent or brought this Urine if the partie be not sicke? Is not this a wise Doctour that cannot tell the Disease by the water? This Doctour shall give me no Physicke, for I have gone to such a Doctour (Rogue or Knave you might call him) that hath told me my disease directly by the water, and he shall be my Doctour; and (for me) so let him: And thus you grumble

grumble at your Doctour, if he honestly tell you that the Urine doth not certainly shew any disease, and begin to examine whose water it is, and how the partie is affected, as also the age, sexe, constitution of body, the present strength of it, and such other circumstances as should shew him (he not seeing the partie) the disease, and guide him in the prescribing fit remedies, you presently suspect him of ignorance, and thinke that he should tell you these things by the Urine. And thus was I lately taxed by a Gossip at *East Greensted* in *Sussex* (where I lived and began my practice) because I was strict in examining the state of her bodie that I might not erre in prescribing her something to give her ease of that which shee complained of; for it was very suspicious that shee was with child, and she pretended that she desired to take something by my prescription, but because I asked her so many questions (the which shee thought I should have resolved my selfe by the water) she would none of mine advise, but reported that I had no skill in waters, and said, I asked her many questions, but could tell her nothing from the water. I spare to name her, yet I wish that she may chance to read this Story, wherein she may perceive that I could have cozen'd her, that she may blush to thinke that she was so much a foole, and thanke me that I have canonized her for a foole-Saint, by no other name, but the name of a Gossip; and so let her know that I wanted not wit to have deceived her, had not my will
beene

beene restrained by a better resolution than to use such base deceit (to fit the humours of my Patients) as is used to delude the vulgar, who think that there is no disease nor symptome thereof, belonging to the body of man or woman, but that it may be discerned in the Urine: Yet it is farre otherwise, for in these Chronicall diseases (for the most part) the water seemeth not to import any disease at all, and yet the partie is irrecoverably sicke: So likewise the Urine is oftentimes of an high red colour, and seemeth to import a violent Fever when the partie is not sicke at all: It may be also of so good a colour and consistence, in a violent disease, as importeth no disease at all, and yet the partie sicke unto death: for confirmation whereof, I will give you two or three instances out of mine owne experience; and referre you to Doctor *Hart* for further satisfaction, who in his Booke intituled, *The Anatomy of Urines*, hath set downe many examples out of his owne observation, as also out of the most ancient and authenticke Writers, which confirme the same which I affirme: First, therefore to confirme this point, That the sicke partie is often irrecoverably sicke of a most Acute and violent disease, when his water seemeth not to import any disease at all; I had a Urine brought me (when I lived at *East-Greensted* in *Sussex*, where I was then a young practisant in Physicke) which did not seeme to import any disease, but was of a better colour and consistence than mine owne, who was

in perfect health, in so much that I could not discern thereby that the partie was sicke; much lesse that he was sicke unto death of a violent disease: But I did not till the messenger that brought it, that I did not perceive by the water. that the partie was sicke, for then I might have shew'd my selfe to have beene a foole, and to have had no skill in waters, as that Gossip thought me that I last spake of: But thus I handled the messenger; I asked him how long the partie had been sicke, and he answered me, a weeke; from whence I knew that it was a violent disease, for else I should (if I had not put him that question) have thought it to have been a Chronicall disease, and so should have given a wrong description of the same, because the water seemed to import no disease at all: So when I had gathered, by his answer to that question that it was a violent disease, I likewise knew that there was a Fever joyned, and gave him but the description of a Fever, to shew him how the partie was affected, and he was very well satisfied therewith, and thought I perceived the disease in the water. Now having given this description how the partie was affected, and that he had a Fever (and indeed a man needs not to say any more, what kind of Fever soever it be) I fell to some conference neerer to the matter (with the Messenger) whereby I came to understand the disease better than by the Urine; and now I begin to tell him the danger that the partie was in, and he desires me (for the messenger was kinsman un-

to the sicke partie) that I would be pleased out of
charitie (for the sicke man was poore, by professi-
on a Shooe-maker, by name *John Lintell*) to
goe along with him, and to see him; the which I
granted, and went along with the messenger to
see this sicke partie, whom I found, lying in his
bed not able to stirre himselfe, sicke of a peris-
pneumoniacall Fever (which is the Apostumation
and inflammation of the lungs) with all the signes
of death in his face, upon the eighth day of his
sicknesse, with sharp nose, hollow eyes, red cheeks,
a great paine in his backe betweene his shoulders,
and a great oppression of his stomach and pectora-
rall parts, in so much that he could scarce breathe
or speake, but with rattling in the throat, all the
which when I had well observed, I put him in
mind of his mortality and present imminent dan-
ger, gave him the best instructions that I could to
prepare himselfe for that sodaine change of this
life for another that was like to be, and so tooke
my leave of him: But before I could get away, I
was desired by some of his friends (that I were a-
bout him, to tell them (for they thinke that we
can surely tell, or else that we are not our crafts-
masters) whether hee would dye, or no; and I
tooke upon me to determine his death before
eight of the clocke the next night, within halfe
an houre of which time he dyed. But (before I
could get out of the chamber) they began to whis-
per, as the manner is and to scoffe me to my face,
saying amongst themselves, that they did not

perceive but that he might live as long as I; but my predictions proved so true, and were so soone accomplished, that I came off from that their censure with more than ordinary credit, for as much as I had prefixed so short a time of his life, and the event (death) following now so neere the utmost boundes and limits of the time. Yet I confesse ingenuously, that I was too peremptory in determining his death within so short a time, or by such an houre, for I had told them that hee could not live untill such an houre (which was eight of the clocke) and that, if he should escape that houre, he would recover; but yet both of these predictions might have proved false, for he might both escape that houre, and yet might not recover (though I said he would, if he passed that houre) but dye within a few dayes or houres after. Neither did I pronounce my judgment from any grounds of Art, that did determine his death within such an houre, but onely by conjecturall probabilitie; for your cunning men, or Conjurers, nay the Devill himselfe, cannot otherwise than upon conjecture, determine a sicke mans life unto an houre, unlesse you make him one of the Almightyes secret counsell. Nay I dare affirme, that the Devils may, and often are deceived in their conjectures and calculations touching the life and death of men, and yet their naturall knowledge is farre more than mens, for they are spirits; and their acquired knowledge is as much beyond mens, because they are ancients than men (even from

from the beginning of the world) & are not subject to the same mortality that man is, who (before he come to begin to have understanding) is in his Grave. I say therefore, that no Physician, nay the Devills (who are ancients than *Aesculapius* or *Hippocrates*, or any of that race) cannot determine the life and death of a man, but upon conjecture, and may be deceived; but yet you looke that a Physician should be able to doe it, and not to erre, because such an event doth oftentimes accidentally follow such a peremptory conclusion as this of mine was, that this partie would dye within such an houre. It is true indeed, and I might truly say (the nature of the disease, and the strength of the body, with all other signes of death being well considered) that I thought the partie would scarce live untill such an houre: but if I should say (without any qualification of the sense) that the partie would not live untill such an houre, and that he would recover if he should passe that houre, you might thinke that I spake without my booke, for I could not say so, but that I must speake more than I know, and so derogate from the providence of God, in assuming that knowledge unto my selfe that belongs onely to him. I was likewise called to another lustie yong man (one *John Duffield* by name) in the very same Towne, very shortly after, who was sicke of the very same disease, in the same manner, whose friends were very importunate at me to be tam-

pering with him, and to use my best skill to recover him, but I perceived that there had another Quack been tampering with him before, who had omitted the opportunity of letting him blood, and found him so far and in such case debilitated that now there was no place for bleeding unlesse I had beene contented to have undergone the scandall that would have soone ensued ; so I wished them to send for the Physician of the soule, and told them there was no place for my Art : For, had I caused him to have been let blood, he would have gone neere to have dyed under the Chirurgians hands, and then they would not have stuck to have said that I had kil'd him ; for it was afternoon, and almost night when I was called unto him, and he dyed before the next morning : Yet (as I said before of the incertaine judgment of diseases by the water) his water was of as good a colour and consistence every way as any healthfull mans, yet notwithstanding I gave my judgement so upon this Urine, as that I satisfied the messenger ; for I asked the messenger, how long the partie had been sicke, who answered almost a weeke ; from whence I gathered that it was a violent disease, although the water did not witnesse the same, and so gave the description of a Fever which shewed how the partie was affected, and made the messenger thinke that I perceived his disease in the water ; but you (I hope) well perceive how I did it, and how a man may be sicke unto death, his Urine shewing no disease at all, and if a Physician
can

can satisfie the messenger and seeme to describe the disease by the Urine, notwithstanding. So now I proceed to sit in judicature upon this modest harlot (the Urine) who in Chronicall diseases seemeth to import no disease at all, and yet she is caught *ipso facto* in her close tricks, for which she is come to publike censure: But first, before I come to examine this strumpet, I must further shew you how I come to know certainly whether it be a Chronicall disease or no, since she is (namely the Urine) so perfidious as that there is no credit to be given to any thing that she comes to give in evidence concerning the state of any sick or well bodies water whomsoever: *Now that I* discern (namely whether it be a Chronicall disease or no) by the same question that I propounded in giving my judgement upon Urines in violent diseases; and that question was this; I onely asked the messenger how long the partie had been sicke, by answer whereunto I am certified, or at least have strong presumption, whether it be a Chronicall or violent disease; for if the Pisse Post say a weeke or lesse, I then presume that it is a violent disease: But if the Pisse-bearer say that the partie hath not beene very well a good while (which is their answer commonly in a Chronicall disease, when we aske how long the partie hath been sicke, for indeed they are not sicke in most Chronicall diseases, but are illish or not well) I dare say then that it is a Chronicall disease; and when I have once received this answer to the

How a lingering disease is found out.

forenamed question, (let the water be of what colour soever it will, or whether I sent or no, I care not) I know how to give an answer that shall please the messenger, and fill his bagge, but put nothing in it; and though the water shew no disease at all, (for so it falleth out for the most part, as I have already told you, in these Chronicall diseases, that I am now to speake of next;) yet I will finde the disease (for which the party sent it) out of it: nay, (if the party should have no disease at all, but send his Urine to see if he be not inclining unto some such hereditary disease as his Parents have dyed of, or beene subject unto, as the Gout, Stone, Consumption or the like) I will shake it into the danger of falling into the same, or some other disease of no lesse danger, for that they alwayes feare, and love to be warned of, though they have obtained such a constitution of body as is not obnoxious unto their Parents diseases; and thus I must doe, if an Urine be sent, though the party be well, or but a little out of tune, by reason of the least distemper that may be; for there is no such constitution of body, but that it hath its proper infirmities, the which must be discerned (since there is such a custome) by the Urine; and I will find them out, and more than there are, by it, if once I come to lecture upon it, or else let them blame my judgement; so then (I grow) there will be worke for the Tinker to prevent an hole in Nature, where there was never like to be a breach. But (I pray) may not this
Phyick-

Physick-rinker (who pretending such knowledge by the Urine, is constrained to backe his pretended knowledge by such base fallacies) may not (I say) nay, will he not, thinke you (under pretence of fortifying that place where you feare a breach) grate an hble in another to let in diseases, to make himselfe continuall worke, the which (at last) will let out that precious liquor of thy life, that thou wouldst be loath to lose? But I leave that to thine owne charity to judge of; and so betake my selfe to my Study, to come forth from thence in my gowne and my cap, to entertaine the next Pisse-bearers, who now begin to come thicke and threefold; I must therefore be gone to my Study, from whence you shall see me come forth presently, and heare me pronounce true judgement, upon the false evidence of the suborned witnesse (the Urine) on the delinquent (the sicke party) though he be absent, and not here to speake for himselfe.

CHAP.

CHAP. VI.

After what manner (if diuers Pisse-messengers come together) they must be examined: How to shew (by the Urine) the Sexe, whether a Woman be with child or no, how long it is since she conceived of it, and whether she shall bring forth a boy, or a girl, although the Urine shew none of all these.

AND now I am in my Study indeed, and you thinke (I suppose) at my booke in earnest consultation with *Hippocrates*, or *Galen*, or some other learned Physicke Anthour; but, if I be looking upon any booke at all, it shall rather be *Gordomus* his tractate of the Cautions of Urines, wherein hee teacheth a Physician, (though I thinke his intention was to teach him not to be deceived by the Urine) to deceive the people by the same: otherwise I am meditating how to handle every Pisse-pot-bearer upon any occasion whatsoever: and my minde being now set more upon the benefit that comes to my selfe by the Pisse-pot, than to others by my study, I minde my gate or doore more than my booke, though I am in my Study (where haply, my name being up, I have a bed and am lying upon it, and should have laine there till noone, had I not been interrupted) and heare a great knocking at my gate, and must my selfe (in my mans absence) be

be faine to goe see what the matter is: so to my gate I trudge, in all precipitious hast, with a quick pace and a sharpe looke, importing greater busines than to examine a Pisse-pot, where I finde three or foure Pisse-messengers at once, (with their Urinals under their aprons) whom I usher into my Hall, and there begin (before I take them aside, apart, to Lecture upon their waters) to looke very sternely upon them, and aske them very hastily, (to the end that I may dash them so farre out of countenance, that they may not be capable of conceiving whether I erre or no in giving my judgement on their waters, and to make them the more ready to tell me whatsoever I shall demand of them) what they would with me, where they live, whose water it is for whom they come, &c. And they are all ready to present me their waters, looking who shall be dispatched first: but before I take any of their Urinals of them, I found them how farre I shall be puzzled with them, dispatching them first, that I shall be least troubled withall. To the first therefore I say, where live you? and she answers, at such a place, naming it: I further aske her whose water it is? and she saith her Mistresses: I aske her also who is her Mistresse, to which she answeres me very orderly, and is now ready to put forth her Urinall unto me, but I doe not yet take it, nor I aske her no more questions, for she will be ready to tell me whatsoever I shall demand: I come therefore to a second, and aske her where she dwells, and (she

(she having told me) I likewise aske her whose water it is that she hath brought, and she saith a Gentlewomans, who desired her to bring it unto me, and she is ready to give me her Urinall, but I refuse it: I goe now to a third, and aske her (for they are for the most part, She-pisse-bearers in a great Towne or City) where she dwells, and that she is contented to tell me; but when I aske her whose water it is, shee pauseth here, and begins to make a doubt whether she were best to tell me that, or no; and therefore answers, that it is a friends of hers: I then aske her what friends it is, and whether it be a mans or a womans water; and she tells me, that I shall perceiue that by the water, (thinking that I can or ought to do so indeed) when I looke upon it, and holds forth her Urinall unto me, in hope that I will dispatch her first, but I refuse to take it, for I am like to be puzzled with her, and it will require more time and Art to answer her than both the other, and therefore shee shall tarry to be the last answered for that tricke. I now therefore take the Urinall of her that told me that it was her Mistresse water, and singe her out from her fellowes, and bid her follow me into another roome (for I must not let severall messengers heare what I say to each other) because I may chance to stop two gaps with one bush, and to give the same answer and description of the disease to them all three, (and indeed one description will as well serve for all Chronicall diseases, as the description of a Fever for all violent diseases,

ses,

ses, as I have shewed you) and then they would
thinke that I pult the bush out of one gap to put
it into another, and that I could say nothing else:
I having therefore tooke the maid into another
roome, bid her come to the light, and as I am ta-
king the Urinall out of the case (perceiving it to
be of a subcitrine or pale colour, which seeme not
to import any disease) I presently say; maid, thy
Mistresse goes up and downe: and she answers,
yes forsooth; and imagines no lesse now, but that
I perceive the Idea or shape of her Mistresse in
the water, and thinks that I can tell any thing else
by the same, so that I shall not now need to trou-
ble my selfe in asking her any more questions, for
she tells me that her Mistresse goes up and downe
indeed, and that I had said very right, and tells
me that her Mistresse desired that I would certifie
her whether she were with child, or no; so I now
set downe the Urinall in the window, and tell her
that it must stand so a little while, and settle, and
then I will tell her presently. *In the meane times*
I fall to parley with the maid, and aske her whe-
ther her Mistresse have had any child or no, and
how long (if she have) it is since she had one;
and she saith, a yeere, a yeere and an halfe, or al-
most two yeeres: and (indeed) most childing wo-
men goe a yeere, or neere upon, and many a yeere
and halfe, and some two yeeres before they con-
ceive with child againe, especially if they nurse
their children themselves. *I aske her likewise, if*
she can tell whether her Mistresse have her natu-
rall

Ordinary
times of
conception

*The signe of
conception
in married
women.*

all courses monthly or no or when she had them; to which she answers, that her Mistresse bid her tell me, that shee hath not had them this tenne weekes, and therefore tells me that shee thinks she is with child, but would desire me to resolve her; And I may quickly doe it without any more looking upon the water, for the tale (that this wench hath told) shewes plainly that she is with child, and the sodaine stopping of the courses in a married woman (that enjoyed them monthly before) is the most certaine token in the world, that I know, that a woman is vvith child: it is likewise the aptest time for a vvoman to conceive immediatly after she hath had them, neither can I nor any other Physician tell, but by this token, (vvhich is the most certaine of all the rest) agreeing vvith other signes of conception, vvhich the water shewes not, vvwhether a vvoman be vvith child or no, and yet for fashion sake, I take the Urinall in my hand againe, and fall to peering in to it (as though I looked for some little child there) And say now to the maid, that her Mistresse is not very well in her stomach, hath no appetite to meate, is ill in her stomach in a morning, and apt to vomit after meate (and so are most childing women at this time) and say, that she is a quarter gone with child, which jumps just vvith tenne weeks, according to the common computation of a womans going forty weeks: but I doe not say, that she is tenne weeks with child, or just so long as since shee had her naturall courses last, for that would

*And say
to the maid
Other signes
of the same.*

would make them so cunning (in time) that they would not send their waters to a Doctour to cast, to know whether they were with child or no, but I say, she is a quarter gone with child, which is but as much as to have said she is tennie weekes with child, or just so long as since shee had her courses last, which was (as the maid told me) ten weeks agoe. *I further say*, that shee is with child of a boy, and to say so, is an even lay; yet, lest it should prove false, I say (looking upon the water very earnestly) that if it had beene brought when it had beene warme, or when she had been quick with child, or some such like flamme, I could have told her certainly whether shee were with child of a boy, or of a girle, but I verily thinke it will be a boy; so now, if it chance to be a boy indeed, it will be granted that I knew for certaine that it would be a boy, and I shall be accounted one of the rarest Doctours in the Town; but if it chance to be a girle, the flamme, that I gave to the maid, and the truth of my predictions in determining the Gentlewoman to be with child, and telling her how long she was gone with child, will help to beare out the other, so that I shall not have my skill one jot abated thereby. I now therefore tell the maid, (as if she had come in but now) that her Mistresse is not very well in her Stomach, hath no appetite to meat, is inclining to vomit after meat, is with child a quarter gone, (and as I thinke) of a boy, and that it were very convenient for her to take some corroborating Electuary to strengthen and

How you are to deale with those who desire to be resolved whether the child is like to be a boy or a girle.

and settle her stomach though she be with child; nay, I tell her that it will be good, not only for her, but for her child also, and I bid her tell her Mistresse, that it will make her child to prosper the better within her, and make it the more lively, so that she shall be the better able to bring it forth with the more ease; nay, I tell her that it will make her bring forth the more wise and understanding child. And so I have done with the maid, bid her remember me to her Mistresse, and be sure to tell her what I had said: and now I am sure that I shall get a fee for my selfe, and a feeling for mine Apothecarie; for what woman (being with child) would not have it to prosper within her? but would she not more gladly bring it forth with ease, and most gladly (it being brought forth) have it prove a wise and understanding child? I dare say she would, though for no other end but (meerely out of pride and emulation) to have it wiser (that is wittier, and more sharpe-witted) than her neighbours, and not so much out of desire that it should attaine true wisdom; but whatsoever her drift be, it skills not; I must but thinke my selfe of something to performe, that which I promised, for this Gentlewoman will repaire unto me for such an Electuary as I spake of to which purpose I have the most admirable receipt in the world, learned it of a proud gossip very lately, into whose company I light by chance who was very inquisitive to learne where shee might get some Quinces, and in a proud

scornefull

scornefull manner questioned with me concerning the nature and vertue of them ; who told her that they did corroborate the stomach, and were cooling and restrigent, and therefore good against vomiting, and fluxes; at which shee seemed to scorn, and said, that she had heard a learned Doctour say, that they being eaten of a great belied-woman, would make her bring forth a wise child, as if I could not as well tell how farre they conduce to the producing of a wise child as her learned Doctour. But suppose Marmalade, or some other confection of Quinces alone to be admirable for that purpose, yet I have learned more wit than to tell this Gentlewoman so, or to give her a boxe of Marmalade, and bid her eate often of it in the morning fasting, and before and after meate, no, she would then under-value my skill, and scarce thinke me worthy of a fee; but I prescribe her an Electuary, wherein Marmalade, or some other confection of Quinces is the chiefe ingredient, but I mixe therewithall some *species* or conserves to seeme to prescribe some rare curious thing though Marmalade alone would have done as well: I shall serve this Gentlewoman even so, and shall prescribe her such an Electuary, which may haply stay her vomiting, and corroborate her stomach, so as she may have a better appetite to meate, and her child may become the more lively and prosper the better within her; but whether it will make the child so wise as to knowv its ovne father or no, I knowv not; I dare not

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promise:

promise : but let her now send vwhen shee vvill, for am provided for her; and so I have done vvith her maid, and sent her away, and am ready to encounter with the second (and to send her away as wise as shee came) who told me that it was a Gentlewomans water that shee had brought.



CHAP. VII.

That Physicians are often faine to reckon up most of the Symptomes that accompany all the Chronical diseases of all the parts of the body (from head to heele) untill they hit upon that which the messenger looketh for : because the Urine (for the most part) in a Chronical sicknesse, seemeth not so importany disease at all : and that a Physician (if hee give a false description of the disease, so that he be taken up by the messenger for the same) must make it good howe ver.

I Am now come forth with the maid whom I have dispatched, and bid the second messenger follow me into the same roome vvhere I gave my oracle unto the maid : vvhere being come, I say, come (good vvoman) give me thy Urinall, and tell her (the Urine being of such a colour, as importeth not an Acute disease, that is

of

of a high red colour) that this Gentlewoman walkes up and downe, hath a crude stomach, no appetite to meate, and is (if she feed liberally) ill after it, and by reason of the ill disposition of her stomach, is often pained in the head: and here she stops me before I runne any further (for else I might chance to reckon up most of the Symptomes that accompany Chronicall diseases, till I hit upon that which the messenger looked for) and so takes me off, and saith she is troubled with a great paine in the head indeed, but doth not complaine much of her stomach: and then I reply that the paine in the head proceeded from the stomach and parts thereunto adjoyning, and that the stomach is alwayes accessory to the diseases of the head; and that I named the ilnesse of her stomach, first, because it was the cause of her disease: and having once given a description of a disease I must be sure to make it good, whether it be true or false; for if I had (for a description of a disease) said that she had been troubled with an oppilation of the Liver, and paine in the head (the messenger answering, no Master Doctor, shee is troubled with an ilnesse, and paine in the stomach) I would have said, it is very true indeed, and I should have told you so, had you not interrupted me, but yet I would maintaine it very confidently, that it came from the head (for the stomach and head doe mutually offend each other) and what could shee have said to the contrary? or if, when I had given a description of the disease, she

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had

had said, Master Doctour, she is much as you have said, but doe not you perceive that she hath a very weake backe? to which I answer, yes marry hath she (for else why should she aske me?) and something else too, which I shall tell you presently; and then I take the Urine and looke upon it and shake it together and set it downe in the window to settle, pretending that it will shew me something else anone: In the meane time I gather by conference with the messenger, whether it be a married womans or a maidens water, and then I take the Urinall and say, (if it be a married womans) that she hath a very weake back indeed and that she is troubled with the Whites, which is a disease that very many women are troubled withall, that complaine of weake backs: so now I have made amends for not naming it at the first amongst the other Symptomes: and now she thinks that I have found it out by the water, never dreaming that I conclude, that shee hath a weake back, from her question, and adde, that she hath the Whites, as a disease that followes the weakenesse of backe, but thinks (because I looke in the water) that I find it there: but if this water chance to be a maiden-Gentlewomans, who is either troubled with a paine or heate in her backe and the messenger aske me if she be not troubled with one of them; I presently conjure them both into the water (for they commonly goe both together) by shaking and looking into it, as also by setting it downe a little to settle, and taking it up againe.

agaïne straight-wayes (for it is quickly found) and then I say, that she hath a great paine and heate in her backe too, and (according to her ripenesse, and readinesse for the man) that shee would have the Stone, or rather the Stones, if she could tell how to get them: I further adde (naming the disease for which shee hath sent her water, though she ayle nothing save only that *Cupid* hath hit her with his golden arrow) that this Gentlewoman wanteth a good husband, and that she dreameth often of her sweet-heart; & bid the woman bid her be of good cheere, & tell her that her sweet-heart will come very shortly; and with this message she is so delighted, that she is more than halfe well agaïne, and thinks to her selfe (though she say nothing to her that brought me her Urine) that I am a very cunning man, and that I can as well tell, whether she shal enjoy him whom she is taken withall, as I have guest by her yeers & constitution of body (but shee thinks I have done it by her Urine) that she is in love, and that I can helpe her to something to make her sweet-heart as farre in love with her, and meanes to trie me for some Love powder, or some other devise to catch her Lover in a Cleft sticke; for shee hath heard of such tricks, and some that have professed Physicke, have taught that Art, and divers both men and women have repaired unto such Knaves, (and by practizing such wicked meanies as hath beene taught them) have obtained their

Lovers; but yet if she repaire unto me againe for this purpose (though I have beene very youthfull in descanting upon her water) I will read her a graver Lecture, for I disclaime such knowledge (though haply I know more than such a Rogue as shall practice it) and detest such wickednesse at mine heart. But now this long Parenthesis, or discourse concerning this maiden-Gentlewoman, may seeme to have hindred the dispatch of the woman that came for the married Gentlewoman: yet if you doe suppose that she came in but now, and that I have but now taken her to doe, and have gathered (after that I have once pronounced a description of the disease) by parly with her, that the Gentlewoman is married, and such other circumstances as I would know, you shall not perceive but that I presently dispatch her; taking the Urinall in my hand and from the water (though she have told me all) pronounce the disease, and say, that the Gentlewoman hath a very weak back, is troubled with the Whites, & that this disease had hindred (for you must conceive that the woman told me that this Gentlewoman hath not had any child, this three or foure yeeres) her conceiving with child, and that she would have no more children, unlesse she were freed of them; and now I must think upon something (against she send) to cure this Gentlewoman, for I am sure she'll to't againe for the r'other boy: and now I am ready for the third messenger, that said she came for a friend of hers.

CHAP. VIII.

How to correct the perverse disposition of crosse messengers: and afterwards to make the messenger believe that thou canst conjure, by shewing the disease by the Urinall cast. How men will serve their wives (who would faine be rid of them) and women their husbands, when they have been With a Physician (for advice) the one for the other. The notable imposture of a Butter-box about this Towne , who pretendeth great skill (above other men) in giving judgement of diseases by the Urine.

I Have made this Gossip tarrie till the last for her oracle , because I feared by her answer (when I asked her whose water it was that she had brought) that shee would prove a crosse peece of flesh to deale withall: I must therefore handle her gently , for the wildest colts are oftner tamed by gentle meanes , as by letting them have the raines lie still in their necks , and giving them their owne play , than by curbing them in too straightly , or by labouring to quiet them by switch and spurre , or the lash: I therefore suffer this colt to play in her owne halter , till shee have so tired or hampered her selfe , that I may doe what I will with her : I doe in no wise handle her

roughly, or speake harshly unto her, and say, come you with your friends water, and let me see it, and (when I have taken it of her) aske her whether it be a mans or a womans water, for it seemeth by her other answer, that shee will not tell me that, and then say (like denying to tell me) come, come, a Pox on't, tell me whose water it is, for I have not time to stand peering into it, for every thing that I must tell you, though I could find it there, if I had not other fish to leech: and indeed their foolish peevishnesse had (oftentimes) need to be so met withall, and some Physicians have gone that straine, and by that humour have gotten more fame, than their transcendent skill in Physicke or learning, above other men hath deserved: but I am not of that humour, no, I say, come good woman (who stinkes as much of goodnesse, as a Poult-cat of muske) I have made you tarry, but you shall not altogether lose your labour; I pray follow me; and so I conduct her into my Parlour, where I have now my man waiting for me with a cup of Ale, with a Nut-browne tost in it, or else a cup of good English Beete of sixteene at the least, with Nutmeg and Sugar in it for my mornings-drught, and sit me downe in my chaire, and say, here good woman I drinke to you, and so fetch off a bowle of almost a pinte, and bid my man fill the good woman a cup and put in some more Nutmeg and Sugar, and bid her to drinke an hearty draught: and when she hath drunke, I bid my man fill me another

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ther cup, that I may wash both mine eyes, so that I may see the better to dispatch this woman quickly; and when I have drunke that off, I bid my man fill the good woman another cup, and bid her mend her draught, and tell her that to drinke Nutmeg and Sugar in her Beere in a morning will make her water sweet. And thus are the perverse dispositions of crosse messengers better corrected, than the malignity of Scammony, with Anise-seed, Rnbarbe with Spike, Agrieke and Turbith, with Sal-gemme, Ginger, or Galingall, Senna, with Ginger, or Cinamon, blacke Hellebore with Malticke, or Cinamon, or *Lapis Armenius*, with twenty times washing in Rose-water: but now to returne to the matter, I have washed away all the ill quality of this womans nature with the cuppe of Beere that I gave her, and wrought her to so good a temper with my loving speeches, that I need not feare, but that she will tell me any thing that I shall aske her: how ever I have now drunke my mornings draught and shall be able to see the clearer, if I must find it all out of the water, that I must shew. I therefore now say, come good woman (it is a great chance but that I lie;) how long hath your friend beene sicke? and shee cannot answer me to this question without shewing me the sexe, (that is, whether it be a mans or a womans water) for the party is not sicke; for then she might answer me directly without giving me any knowledge thereof, and might say, a weeke, a fortnight, or more,

or

or lesse, but she must needs say, He, or She (but yet she will scarce remember that she said, He or She, anon when I shall shew my skill upon the water, and determine the Sexe) hath not bene very well a good while, and so offers me her Urinall with the water in it, as it is in the Case, but I refuse to take it, and say unto her as followeth. Good woman, because I have made you to stay so long, I will shew you your friends disease by the Urinall Case, and never looke upon the water at all: give me therefore the Urinall Case, and do you keepe the water to your selfe, so that I doe not see it at all, and yet I will tell you your friends disease, as well as he that should pore and peepe, or gaze into the water this month: and now the woman thinks that I can surely conjure. I now therefore take the Urinall Case of her, and looke as wittly upon it, as if it were the Urinall with the water in it, and presently pronounce (looking upon the Case,) That this party goes up and downe, is not heart-sicke, but is faint in the body, hath but a bad stomach, doth linger and pine as it were, is joylesse and melancholike and takes no pleasure in any thing, which shall be the description of this disease: and now the woman she wonders to heare me say, by looking only upon the Urinall Case, that the party is so affected, as I have said; and yet it is true, that the party is so affected, & it is as true that the Urinall Case doth shew it as certainly as the Urine it selfe. For the water might be of such a laudable colour
and

and consistence as might seeme not to import any disease at all, and yet the partie might be sick unto death: It might likewise be of such a colour and consistence as might seeme to import a violent disease when the partie is not sicke at all: I wish therefore that any Physician would set pen to paper to disprove me, or to shew that there is any certaine judgement of any disease, by the water; and yet forsooth this base custome, of divining by it, must be continued: But how then, will you say, can a Physician conclude, that a partie is thus or thus affected, from it? Why thus you may doe it: namely, by putting a question; For (as *Fernelius* saith) *Interrogatiuncula causæ præmittenda quampridem morbus invasit*: A question is to be propounded (craftily) to the messenger (as I have done to this woman) how long the partie hath bene sicke: Then pronounce a description of the disease, and fall to parly with the messenger, and thou shalt quickly find what the disease is; for the same Author saith, *Verborum circuitu stultorum mens facile irretitur*, by exchange of words the foole messenger is soone caught: And thus have I caught this woman, whom (though she be an old bird) I have caught with chaffe; for I asked her, before I tooke the Urinall case of her (by which I have undertaken to divine) how long her friend had been sicke, and she answered mee, that he (but hath forgot that she said he) had not been very well a good while, from which answer I shall shew both the sexe and the disease; for
this

this word (He) sheweth me the sexe, and these words, Hath not bene very well a good while, shew me that it is a Chronicall disease, and how the partie is affected: The latter part of her answer, namely, A good while, shew that it is a Chronicall disease; and the former part of the words, namely, Hath not bene very well, doe im-
plicate that the partie lyeth not by it, and that therefore he goeth up and downe, hath no appetite to meat, is faint in his body, doth linger and pine as it were, is joylesse and melancholicke, and takes no pleasure in any thing (as I told her before) and so are all they that have not bene very well a good while: But the woman never dreames that I gather all this from her answer, because I looke upon the Urinall-case, but rather thinke that the Urinall infected the case, or else that I can con-
jure: But let her thinke what she will, so that I conserve that same which I have got in the Pisse-
pot Science, I care not: Yet this I am sure, that she will thinke never the worse of mee for being a conjurer. Imagine with me, that shee came but now in, and that (after my courteous entertain-
ment of her) I have but now taken the Urinall case of her, asked how long her friend hath been
sicke, and received her answer, but that I present-
ly pronounce the same description of her friends
disease that I have already shewed you; at which
shee wonders not a little; but I shall make her
wonder more anon: And now I adde, that it is a
mans water, to which she answers, that it is in-
deed.

deed. I further aske her how old the partie is, and according to her answer, as the parties age shall agree with hers, I say that it is her husbands, at which she mervailles more than at all the rest, and saith that it is indeed: And now she is ready to put finger in the eye, and askes me if he be not in a Consumption, and tells mee (for I did not name it) that he hath a very great cough: Shee askes me likewise if I doe not perceive it; and I answer, yes I doe perceive it, or else befoole mee while you will, and I will never be angry: And then I tell her that this cough proceeded from his ill stomach (which I had named) that sent a rheume unto his head, which distilled down from thence upon his lungs and caused the same. I now come neerer to the matter, and tell her that her husband is inclining (and perhaps further entered than ever I shall be able to recover him) into a Consumption: But yet I tell her that I hope he may be recovered as yet, and that I will use the best meanes that may be, to restore him: I also aske her why she so long deferred coming to a Physician, and shee saith, that her husband had thought to have worne it out, as they all think to doe: I now tell her that I feare there will bee some danger, yet I will doe what can be done on my behalfe, and that shee must now deferre no longer time, if she love her husbands life: And now if she be not provided of another husband already, and so come more to know how long she shall be troubled with him, and to excuse her selfe

selfe (if he should chance to dye) than for any
 thing to cure him, I must bethinke my selfe of
 some *Aurum porabile*, some Liquor of life of a
 great price, some Consumption powder of twenty
 or thirty shillings an ounce, or some such receipt
 which no body hath but my selfe) than the which
non datur majus secretum, there is not a greater
 secret in the world : And now if I recover the
 man, he will think his purse to be in a Consump-
 tion, but I cannot cure it there. But if this woman
 would have him dye, she'l goe home and tell him
 that he is in a Consumption indeed, and will scarce
 recover : So now whereas he went up and downe
 before, walked abroad, and was sicke but a little
 in jest, he feesles himselfe iller already with this
 message, and meanes to dye in good earnest; and
 so betakes himselfe to his chamber, with a reso-
 lution to save his purse, out of which hee never
 comes till he be brought with his heels forward :
 And thus was I cruelly haunted (at *Canterbury*)
 by a man to put him in comfort of his wives more
 sodaine departure than God had decreed, but she
 is yet living, and (for ought that I know) may
 live to eate of that Goose that may graze upon
 his Grave. I dare say that women come not short
 of that man. yet I did never perceiue that any
 woman ever brought me her husbands Urine for
 that purpose; I will not therefore belye them, to
 make them worse than they are, for they are (God
 amend them) bad enough of themselves already.
 I have therefore done with this woman (for I sus-
 pect,

pect, for all her fained teares, that she came to
to that purpose) and have given her her errand,
and sent her away, and she (by this time) hath
given her husband his errand, and sent him the
way of all flesh, (who had he not trusted to his
wife, and relied upon the sending of his Pisse in
stead of sending for my selfe or some other lear-
ned Physician) might have been a live man and
have lived many a faire yeere: But you see what
is become of him, and (I hope) conceive what
danger you put your lives in that adventure to
take Physicke prescribed by the sight of the Urine
onely: I hope likewise that you conceive by these
few instances that I have already set downe, how
a Physician (if I may so call him that useth such
base fallacies to backe his pretended knowledge)
may give judgement of Urines both in Acute and
Violent, or Chronicall and lingring diseases, and
how handsomely your Pisse-messengers are sob'd
over: for I protest before God, that by these fal-
lacies, this deceitfull jugling, and farre worse
shifts than any I have here set downe, hath this
base custome of giving judgement of diseases by
the sight of the Urine, beene underpropped and
supported, or else it had long agoe been abroga-
ted, and fallen to the ground: For there is no
knowledge of any disease to be gathered by the
Urine, sufficient to guide a Physician in the pre-
scribing of medicines to cure the same: (And yet
(forsooth) such a base custome hath beene uphol-
den by most of our best Physicians, that (you
bring-

bringing us your Pisse) we must tell you (though we do it meerly by such fallacies as I have shewed you, or the like) what is the disease by it, and whether it be a mans or a womans water; as also, if it be the water of a woman-kinde, whether it be a married womans or a Maidens; and, if a married womans, whether she be with childe or no; and, if with child, whether she shall bring forth a boy or a girle, and when she conceived of it; and (I think too) whether she shall bring forth a man or a monster: I can tell you one thing more (as well as any man in the world can tell you any of these that I have named) by the water, if you bee as much desirous to know, as you are farre to seeke sometimes, and that is this, namely who begot this child, whether your owne husband or vvhath other man. But if vvomen did beleewe as much (vvhich they may as vvell as any of the other) vve should as often have halfe a piece, for being sent for to the vvomen kinde, as have halfe a shilling sent us for casting their vvater. Nay the Maid (that I spake of) may chance to be but a crackt vessell and a supposed Virgin, and hath been roying vvith some fellovv or other, so farre that she knew not how to backe his putting forward, but hath (she thinks but in jest) taken such earnest for her Virginitie, as hath confirmed the sale of her chastitie: Upon consideration whereof, shee now begins to grow male-content, is queasie stomached, troubled vvith a paine and svelling in her belly, and her ancles are svolve towards night;

night; for which cause, her friends feare the Dropſie, or ſome ill diſeaſe, and ſo ſend their Daughters water to a Doctour to caſt, to know what ſhe ayleth; and if they have any jealousie of their Daughter, that ſhe hath plaid at faſt and looſe, and plaid looſe when ſhe ſhould have kept faſt, they thinke that a Doctour can tell how the knot ſlipt, and eaſily reſolve them of that doubt: But if we ſuſpect and conceive it to be ſo indeed by the rale of the meſſenger that brings this water, yet wee dare not ſay that this Maid is with childe, for wee know not the trouble and ſtirre that might come of it; but happily we ſay, Is this a Maids water? and then we ſay (if it be) that ſhe hath a Tympanie (which is a Dropſie as her Parents feared) meaning with two legges, which proves too true, and makes the meſſenger to call to minde (when this Tympanie hath more plainly diſcovered it ſelfe) that the Doctour asked her if this were a Maids water; and then they ſurely thinke that we could tell by the water; but yet we can tell no otherwiſe, than as I have ſhewed you before in giving judgement of womens Urines, and how we judge them to be with childe by their water; the which, women themſelves might doe (if they would apply their hearts unto that wiſedome that moſt properly concerned them) by conſerring with diſcreet women, or Midwives, who (if they could not better tell by that ſecret examination of their bodies which they might make, and by other obſervations,

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whether

whether a woman were with child or no, than any Physician can doe by the Urine) were not worthy to exercise that function: So they should not need to trouble a Physician (for that matter) but that they love rather to be tampering with a man than with their owne sexe, and so might save that groat (sent for casting their water to know whether they be with childe or no) to buy them a pound of Sope to make their Linnen white: But the woman is so addicted to the man, that Midwives (I think) ere long will be quite out of request, so that if some more of us Physicians (who are the most proper and handsome banded men amongst us) doe not turne Women-deliverers, our brothers will be over-wronght; Sed nolo hoc ulcus tangerē: But I will not now rub any more upon this sore, for I have not now time to search it to the bottome, and therefore I will let it alone untill I may chance to ranke it with the other monopolized secrets of the methodicall Abusers of the noble Profession of Physicke. And thus have I shewed the fallacies and knavery (of all those, whether Physicians or Quacks and Empiricks, who pretend knowledge of diseases by the same) used in the giving judgement of an Urine: The which I have so plainly shewed that the most ignorant people may perceive how finely they are flamm'd over, when they send their Pisse to a Doctour to cast, and may collect (for it is very true) that there is no certaine knowledge of any disease to be gathered from the Urine; but yet the nature of men is such, that
(being

(being setled in an opinion, though grounded
merely upon errors and fallacies) they will hard-
ly be beaven from it by sound arguments and so-
lid reasons, and will rather imbrace and maintain
falsehood (instead of truth) than be thought so
weake as to have beene possibly deluded: I know
for certaine that it will hardly sinke into many of
your heads, which I have written; became ma-
ny Physicians, some Divines, and other silenced
Ministers who have turned Physicians (whose
tender consciences would not serve them to
subscribe to the decent ceremonies of the Church)
have practized these base fallacies, in giving judg-
ment of Waters being brought unto them: But
(I hope) some of their vvaters vvill bee better
looked into, than to be suffered to exercise two
callings of such vveight as are Divinitie and
Physicke: And (for mine ovvne part) I care not
though I be censured for going about to over-
throw this custome of giving judgement of dis-
eases by the Urine, the vvch I know I shall be;
for I have already ejaculated something to this
purpose, and I finde men so prepossessed vvith an
opinion that the Urine is sufficient to shew a
Physician the disease, sexe, and conception, and
the like, so that very mechanicks tell me that
they have sent their vvaters unto such and such
Doctors, who have thereby told them their dis-
eases directly: I (saith one) have sent my Wives
vvater by my Maid (vvho is a cunning vvench,
and vvould not be deceived), to a young Dutch
man

man a Doctour, who (they say) is the most expert man, for his judgement in waters, in all the Towne; and he hath told the Maid (by the water) how her Mistresse hath bene affected in every respect, and that she was with childe, which proved true. To which I answer, that if the Maid had no more wit than her Master, I could as easily cozen her as the Dutch-man did; and I doe further affirme that the Dutch-man is an Assle, the French-man a Foole, and the English-man a Knave, who pretendeth knowledge of diseases by the Urine. I have likewise had some conference with some of better breeding, and more knowing men, who (because they have been thus deluded by their Physicians) doe likewise beleieve that the Urine doth shew the disease sufficiently of it self: And (to this purpose) saith one, I have sent my water unto such a Doctour with a Latine Epistle of two or three lines (not writing how I was in any kind affected) and he hath returned me an answer in very terse Latine, and shewed me truely how I was affected, and what was the cause of my disease; and therefore certainly (saith hee) the Urine doth shew the disease: To whom I answer, that he could pen no Epistle (though he doe not write therein how he is affected) from whence a Physician cannot collect something which shewes how hee is affected, more than the Urine: and yet when hee returnes his answer, hee vwill therein implice that hee perceiveth it by the Urine. For examples sake

Iake I have here framed an Epistle from this Aca-
demian (but haply not in such terse Latine as
hee wrote) unto his Physician, for his judgement
of his disease by his Vrine: I have likewise set
downe the Physicians Oracle or answer in some
of the very same vvords vvhich this Gentleman
said, that his Doctour vvrote unto him: From
vvhence you shall perceiue that there is nothing
but fallacie in giving judgement of diseases by
the Urine onely.

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CHAP.

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CHAP. IX.

That the learnedst Clerks are not the wisest men,
and that the cunningst Pisse-propheys are not so
honest as they should be: that the long judge-
ment of disease (by the Urine) is dangerous,
or meere juggling.

VRinam hanc nostram (egregie Domine Doctor)
morborum quam vocant indicem, per hunc ba-
bulum cum hisce meis literis, inspiciendam ad te mi-
si. Quid mali minatur, vel quodnam morbi genus
significare videtur, ex tuis literis rescriptis scire ge-
stus: Inspice igitur, & rescribe sententiam tuam
tantum qua sit, de urina, quem morbum indicat
presentem, vel futurum prognosticat: Deque cura
ejus, & consilij genere quod erit ei accommodatissi-
mum, sum posthac consulturus quum te certiozem
fecerim (ex ore meo) quid mali, potissimum affli-
git, & que sit ejus causa (si forte calaret eam Uri-
na) ostenderim: Vale interim, & ut valeas cura, ut
& me valere facias, & valentem conserves.

Amicus tuus tui amantissimus. R.K.

Englished thus.

Worthy Master Doctour, I have sent
you by this bearer, with these my Let-
ters, my water to view, which men
call

call the discoverer of diseases: I desire to understand by your letters, what evill it threatens, and what kind of disease it seemeth to betoken: view it therefore; and returne me your opinion of it in writing, and what present infirmity or imminent danger it doth foretell: as for the cure of it, I shall take your advice; concerning that counsell which shall be most convenient for it, when I have certified you (from mine owne mouth) what malady most afflicts me, and have shewd you (if my Urine should conceale it) what is the cause of it. In the meane time have a care of your owne wel-fare; that you may make me well, and preserve my welfare also. And so fare you well.

Your most loving friend, R.K.

I confesse that this Epistle doth give a Physician very little light of the disease, towards the pronouncing judgement of the same, yet not so little as the Urine. I can draw no conclusion from the words thereof, because I penned them my selfe. But from the circumstance of the words I gather these particulars. First that there was acquaintance betweene you and your Doctour, and that thereby he knew the complexion and constitution of your body, which conferred much to the giving judgement of your Urine: otherwise (if there had beene no acquaintance betweene you) you would not have written unto him so familiarly; secondly, you did but *leviser Aggravare*, were but a little sickish or ill at ease; or else you would

not have beene able to have written your selfe for in a Violent disease (for the most part) men are in two or three dayes so debilitated in their bodies, and disturbed in their senses, that they cannot write: Thirdly, from the Urine ariseth this circumstance, that (as the water seemed not to import a violent disease) it did not seeme to import any disease at all, save onely that it was sent with your letters, to witnesse that you were not well. Fourthly, I presume, that the messenger, whom you sent with your Pisse, could tell your Doctour (for I am sure he would demand that) that you walked up and downe, but were not very well: all which circumstances being well considered and layd together, were light enough for your Physician to shew how you were affected. I doubt not, but that your Doctour knew well how to make use of all such advantages, for else hee would have beene as lightly esteemed of all men, as you would have esteemed him, if hee had not told you (as you thinke) your disease by your water. I will now pen his answer unto your letters, and then I will shew you the fallacies of them; wherein you shall perceive, that the learnedst Clerks are not the wisest men, nor the craftiest Pisse-prophets so honest as they should be.

D*ifficilis admodum (Domine doctissime) morborum, ex Urina solius inspectione, cognitio & investigatio: Que vero inde noverim, ut me velis describere, ea recenset laboras (ut opinor) a pueris & stomacho*

è stomacho in caput elevatâ , & rursus è capite in subjacentes partes distillante : quam verò partem opprimit , quamque viam offendet nescio : At mihi suspicio orta est , ventriculum eandem præcipue tenere , & nauseam tibi cum sibi fastidio adesse , unde nec cibum appetis nec estum digeris : Licet præterea , præ stomachi impuritate , vitio inquinatur , & inde cor citro vapore feritur & caput : unde tristaris , & somni carentia , vel saltem tibi adsunt somni turbulenti . Venter cum hypochondrijs flatibus cruciatur . Videris etiam aliquantulum febricitare . Si quid omisi quod ex Urinâ noverim , vel quod eadem non indicaverit , fac me ut sciam , & id tibi consilij genus (quod , ad morbum profligandum & ad pristinam sanitatem inducendam erit aptissimum) suppedita vero . Vale , & ut valeas curo & cupio .

Sanitatis tue studiosissimus . H.C.

Englished thus.

THE discerning and finding-out (most learned Sir) of diseases , by the sight of the Urine only , is a matter of great difficulty : yet (as you desire me) I have written unto you what I discern by your Urine . You are (as I conceive) troubled with Rhume arising from your stomach unto your head , and from thence , distilling againe upon the lower parts : but what part it most oppresseth , or what place it affects , I cannot well tell ; yet I have great suspicion that it chiefly possesseth your stomach , and that your stomach is nauseous and loaths your meat , inso much that you neither desire meat nor
can

can digest it when you have eaten it. Furthermore, your Spleen is ill affected by reason of the impurity of your stomach; whereupon your heart and head are assaulted with a tetrour vapour, so that you are melancholicke, and cannot take your rest, or at least have very troublesome sleeps: your belly and hypochondres are oppressed with wind: you seeme also to be somewhat feverish. If I have omitted any thing that I discern by your Urine, or that your Urine doth not shew, let me but know it, and I will supply you with that advice which shall be most convenient to profligate your disease, and to reduce you to your former health. I desire and study your wel-fare, so fare-well,

The most earnest Wisher of your health, *H.C.*

This Epistle (Master Doctour) hath pleased your Patient, and you thereby have purchased a great deale of honour: your Latine he understands well enough, but the implied sense and meaning thereof he is not aware of, because he is not acquainted with the mystery of giving judgement of a Pisse-pot: I will therefore be so bold as to comment upon your Epistle, the better to helpe his understanding, and then I leave him to his owne *Genius* to retaine or reject his old opinion concerning judgement of diseases by the sight of the Urine.

And now (Master Doctour for your Epistle) you begin it thus, first you write, That the discerning and finding out of diseases by the sight

of the Urine onely, is a very difficult matter.

It is very true, Master Doctour, that you have said; it is a very difficult matter (indeed) to finde out diseases by the sight of the Urine onely, but these your words imphie that it may be done, and that you your selfe have arrived at the Haven of this knowledge, and that most other men have come farre short of it. Herein, Master Doctour, that which you imphie is meereley false; for neither *Hippocrates* nor *Galen*, nor your selfe (who think not your selfe inferiour unto them) did ever attaine unto this knowledge: but however you will not be ashamed to assume and arrogate it unto your selfe (because it is put upon you, and you can make a shift to delude such Novices,) and to derogate what you can from other men; and this is very common to you with most other men of our Profession. If you had written thus to your Patient (Sir it is impossible to give true judgement of diseases by the sight of the Urine only, which is but one of the many signes which together, with the knowledge of divers other Symptoms (which the Urine sheweth not, do determine the disease) you had said but truth, and shewed your selfe to have beene an honest man. But hang honesty, what care you for it? so that you carry the matter so faire, that you be not caught in your knavery. You thinke, that if you had written so to your Patient, hee would have suspected your skill, and therefore you will rather smother the truth to maintaine this your pretended skill (though you be

be conscious to your selfe that you are a Knave for your labour) than you will have your skill questioned, though you have spoken truth, and therein plaid the part of an honest man: for then you thinke you should likewise lose your Patient.

Secondly, you say, That you have according to your Patients desire, written unto him what you discern by his Urine. To which I answer, that if the Urine shew you any thing, which I question much in such a case, you write a great deale more than you perceive in the water; and that (if you will be an honest man) you must often frustrate the desire and expectation of your Patients, which you may doe, and yet give them content too, if you carry the matter discreetly.

Thirdly, Master Doctour, you write, That your Patient (as you conceive) is troubled with Rhume arising from the stomach unto the head, and from thence distilling againe upon the lower parts; but what part it most oppresseth, or what place it affecteth, (which is most true, but yet there will be no notice taken of these words) you know not.

(I answer unto this, that you doe not (from the water) gather this, but from his complexion and constitution of body which you know and are acquainted withall: for neither doth any Urine so certainly betoken either Phlegme, Rhume, Choler, or Melancholy, but that (by reason of the divers variations that it is subject unto) it may (falsly) pretend any of these humours to be predominant, and so be farre distant from the conjecturall and probable

probable Canons of the Pisse-pot-science: but admit, Master Doctour, that this Urine had beene brought you from a Stranger, whose constitution you had not known, I presume that you would have enquired very narrowly what constitution of body the sicke party had been of, whether a leane spare, a grosse and fat man, or of a middle temperature and habit of body, as also how long he had beene sicke, and whether he went up and downe or no, before you pronounce your judgement of the Urine: and then, if it chance to be true that you speake or write, you can make him beleeeve, that you perceive it by the Urine; but if it be false, that you have said, you can make it good.

Fourthly, Master Doctour, you write, That you have a great suspicion (which is a word that might call your judgement into suspicion, but that your Patient is very confident of your skill, and therefore he will give it a favorable construction) that this Rhume did chiefly possesse his stomach, and that his stomach was now become nauseous and loathed meat, and did not digest it being eaten: and your Patient beleeves that you perceive his stomach is possessed with this humour, & that you perceive also by it that his stomach is nauseous, desires not meat, nor digests it being eaten: but here, Master Doctour, you are too cunning for him; he writes unto you for your judgement of his Urine, and you are afraid, that if you doe not satisfie his desire, he will seeke advice somewhere else: you therefore thinke that you were as good
deceive

deceive him as another man. You read his Letters, and they only desire your judgement of his Urine, but doe not shew you any thing how he is affected: you looke upon his water, and that importeth no disease at all: you tell the messenger looking upon the water (as if you there perceived it) that he goes up and downe, and the messenger answers that he doth. You likewise know his constitution to be spare and thin, and what humour is predominant in the complexion & temperature of the same. You take all these into consideration: and first collect that he is not very well, because he hath sent unto you his Urine, and desires your advice of it: Secondly, you conceive that he is not very ill, because hee walks up and downe, and his Urine doth not import any disease at all. Thirdly, you know his complexion to be (for so I suppose it) Phlegmaticke. And now you conclude (he neither being sicke nor well, and his complexion Phlegmaticke) that he cannot have a good stomach to his meat, and therefore you determine the cause of his sickness to be Phlegma in the stomach: so you write unto him that he is troubled with Rhume in the stomach rising from thence, and distilling downe thither againe, caused nauseousnesse, and want of appetite and digestion, and your Patient thinks you perceive all these things by his Urine: never dreaming that you collect from the forenamed circumstances (namely his complexion, his going up and downe, and his Urine not importing any disease) that

that he was troubled with Rhume in the stomach; nor once imagining that you adde the nauseousnesse of his stomach, want of appetite and digestion, as consequent effects of this precedent cause (Phlegme in the stomach) but thinkes that you perceive them all severally in the water; whereas indeed, you perceive none of them at all

Fifthly, Master Doctour, you adde, That your Patients Spleene is ill affected by reason of the impurity of his stomach: and he thinks likewise that you perceive this in his water: if his Spleene be not ill affected at all, yet he will thinke it to be, because you say so: and if it be ill affected, it is not to be discerned in the Urine, but is (you well know) *Cacoehymia soboles*, the off-spring of impurity, which followeth (very) often crudity of stomach.

Sixtly, You further adde, that his head and vitall parts are assaulted with a noxious vapour proceeding from his Spleen, which makes him sad, and that hee cannot take his rest, or at least that his sleeps are very troublesome, hee still thinks that his water shewes all this, not knowing that these are necessary consequences of a crude stomach and a Rheumatick constitution: he never considers, Master Doctour, (as you doe) that those that are on the sodaine distempered (though they be but a little ill) doe not take their rest, or at least have troublesome sleep: but thinks that the Urine (according to the severall parts of it) doth severally

shew the diseases of the severall parts of the body: he therefore thinks, that the Circle shews the diseases of the head, the Center of the truncke or middle part of the body, and the lower part the diseases of the lower parts of the body: and so by consequence the disease of the Toe is to be found in the very lowest part of the Urine; but the paines in the head or Toes, are neither to be perceived by the upper-most or lower-most part of the Urine nor by any other part of it. Yet a silenced Minister in Kent, who was become an *Æsculapius*, being asked by a friend of mine (when he had, by this fallacious way of giving judgement upon an Urine, reckoned up a Paine in the head, amongst other Symptoms) whether hee perceived by the Urine, that the party had a paine in the head, he answered, yes: looke you here (quoth he) this Circle or Ring, by some marks that I perceive in it, doth shew me that the party hath a paine in the head. He might as well have worne the Surplice, and baptized with the Crosse, against his conscience, as to make a common practice of lying against his conscience wilfully.

Seventhly, You adde that he is troubled with wind in the belly & Hypochondres; which is likewise incident to Phlegmatick constitutions, but is not (as he supposeth) to be perceived in the Urine.

Eighthly, You adde that he seemeth to be somewhat feverish: you doe not perceive this in the water neither, yet you know that whosoever is not well doth (*vel febre laborare, vel febricitare*)

labour

labour either of a Fever, or is feverish; and therefore you have added this to helpe at a pinch, for you know not certainly, but that his feverishness may be greater than you suspect: his heat may be such, as that he may expect that you speake something of his Liver, for hee thinkes that it is over-hot; but you can tell him that hee cannot have a Fever, but that his Liver must be inflamed. In fine (Master Doctour) whether he have a Fever or no Fever, you have hit the nayle on the head, and he believes that you have written nothing but what you perceived in the water; but if it please him to read an exposition upon your Letters, hee shall perceive your cunning to be (*vix frans honesta*) scarce honest cozening. You determined his disease (as he told me) to be *Flatus Hypochondriacus*, when you saw him, that is, wind in those parts called the Hypochondres: but it was (as he confessed to me) *Flatus Hypochondruncicus*, or (as I thinke I may fitly call it) the drunken Hiquet, *ex crapula contractus*, taken by a drunken surfeite. It skills not what his disease was, nor how he rooke it; I doe not meane to scandall him for it; since he is recovered of it; I rather bestow this *Recipe* upon him, by the way of prevention, (*Noli tu peccare amplius, ne Pejus tibi contingat*) that he fall not into the like infirmity: and wish withall my heart, *ut valeat & resipiscat*, that hee may enjoy his health with that greater happinesse of that wisdom, whereby hee may *rectum distinguere falso*, discern truth from falsehood.

CHAP. X.

I have here inserted another Epistle (but not in Latine) from a Reverend Divine, unto his cunning Esculapius, for his judgement of his Wives Urine, to know whether she were with child or no: I have likewise set downe the Doctors answer, with an explication of the Enigmatical fallacies, therein contained, darkning the judgement of the learned, and making a specious shew of a falsely assumed knowledge.

Worthy Master Doctor, my kind love salutes you &c. My wife being neither sicke nor well, goes up and down the house, but is very puling: she hath a very nauseous stomach, loaths meat, and if she eate any thing (which is very little, or of some very strange dish) she is ready to vomit it up againe: she hath now twice missed. (which she orderly enjoyed before) the naturall benefit of her monthly evacuation: ever since which time, that shee had them last, she hath been thus ill: and for the same cause, that shee hath missed them, shee suspects that she may be with child, or else is thus ill for want of them: I have here sent you her Urine, and desire you to vouchsafe to looke upon it, and to resolve us whether she be with child, or what other infirmity

infirmity she doth labour of, that we may (if shee be not with childe) prevent a worse danger in time; I pray returne your answer in writing; and so with my best wishes for your owne wel-fare, that others may fare the better for you, I bid you fare-well, and rest

Your wel-wishing friend, J. H.

REverend Sir, my best respects to your selfe and your wife, do kindly resalute you both: your wife (you write) is neither sick nor well; you may then shift your hands of her, if you doe not like her, and tell her that you promised only to keepe her in sicknesse and in health: but however (good Sir) I am sorie, as she is not sicke, that she is nor well, but not so much as otherwise I should be, because your kindnesse hath caused this neutrality of being neither sicke nor well. Her nauseousnesse of stomach, loathing of meat, and vomitting after, it will shortly cease, and the disease (which now troubles her stomach) will some seven moneths hence, be gotten into her armes. In the meane time it were not amisse for her to take something to corroborate her stomach, which she may very safely doe. I have viewed her water, and can say no more than I have done, unlesse to speak more plainely. I say with an *ἐξαιρέσει* she is with child, and that almost a quarter gone, God send her a happy deliverance, when the time shall come, and (till then, and ever) health, and so prayes,

Your assured loving friend, H. P.

This good Divine (as most of them are) is one who is possessed with this opinion, that the Urine doth shew the disease, Sexe, and conception, and the like: yet haply hath heard that *Primæ menses*, the Water is a lying Harlot, but yet hee thinks that a Physician (if he be his crafts master) can tell whether a woman be with child or no, because hee heareth women clatter such things, who have beene thus deluded. He never stands to examine the truth of such predictions by the Urine, but supposeth that men are or should be honest in their callings. This I am sure of, that he is a loving man to his wife, for which I thinke him to be the honefter man. Hee hath sent her Vrine to a Doctour, and desireth him to resolve him from thence whether she be with child or no, or what other danger may be imminent. He writeth likewise, very punctuall and carefully, how she is affected: namely, that she hath a nauseous stomach, loathes meat, longs after trifles, and is apt to vomit after she hath eaten: now all these are evident signes of Conception, if she be a childing-woman, and they doe agree with other signes also, and if she find any such alteration in her body, as that she suspect the same: he likewise adds, that she hath not had her monthly benefit of nature, now this two months, which she enjoyed orderly before: & this witnesseth very strongly to the former signes that she is with child, and shewes how long it is since she conceived of it: but the good-man (though he have read this in *Aristotle*, and *Albertus*)

Albertus doth not think that this is all the ground we have to conclude a woman to be with child, but thinks that *Hippocrates* and *Galen*, and the common practice of viewing of waters, have taught us otherwise to distinguish the Sexe, as also whether a woman be with child or no, by her water: but (good man) he is deceived; and which is worst of all, he hath partly deceived himselfe, for he hath written that unto his Doctour (though hee doe not know it) that shewes his wife to be with child, and yet he desireth to be resolved from the water; and so his Doctour hath done: hee hath read his Letters, and therein finds enough to his purpose, and a great deale more than the Urine sheweth, from whence he may boldly pronounce her to be with child, though he never looke upon the water at all: yet (having read the Letters) hee taketh the Vrine, and before the messenger that brought it) falls to peering into it, to seeme to find that there, for which he hath brought it: and so he betakes him to his pen and inke, to answer these Letters, and (having descanted upon the former part of the Divines Letters, in such manner as you see in his answer, which shewed him that the good Gentlewoman was with child) he now determines her to be with child, and that almost a quarter gone: which proving true, as it is very probable that it will, makes them the more admire this unsuspected juggling: for they are not aware that the sodaine ceasing of the naturall monthly benefit of a woman, together with nau-

scousnesse of stomach, longing after trifles, want of appetite, and vomiting after meat, are the most infallible signes of Conception by which we judge a woman to be with child, as indeed they are: neither doe they observe, that it is the most apt time for a woman to conceive immediately after that she hath enjoyed that naturall benefit, as their Doctour doth: nor they doe not conceive that the Doctour determines her to be a quarter gone with child, from the time that shee enjoyed her naturall benefit last, which (as her husband writeth) was now more than two months agoe, which is almost a quarter, for two months is almost ten weekes, and ten weekes is a quarter of the time that a woman goeth with child from her conception according to the common computation of a womans going forty weekes with child: but they good-man and good-woman, thinke (as almost all the world besides themselves doth) that the Dr. perceives, by some signes in the Urine, the conception, as also how farre a woman is gone with child: and the Dr. is very well contented that they should thinke so: but whatsoever they thinke, you see what they are (but fooles) for their labour, and their Dr. but a Jugler at the best, for nursing them up in that false opinion. And now I hope that you conceive that there is no certaine knowledge of any disease in the world by the Urine, much lesse of the Sexe, Conception, parties age, and the like: you perceive likewise the fallacies whereby the Water-Prophet maketh the messenger

ger to thinke that he perceives all these things in the Urine. You see also that not only the rude un-
 tamed, & ignorant vulgar people; but many lear-
 ned Clerks have been made both Greeke fooles,
 and Hebrew Asses, by this juggling, and these de-
 ceitfull fallacies which I have shewed: yet these
 are not all the trickes, and fallacies that Pisse-
 mongers have to deceive their Patients, or Pisse-
 messengers withall: but by these you may per-
 ceive how you may be a thousand wayes more de-
 ceived; for by a little may be perceived what
 more is meant, and according to the old Pro-
 verbe, *Verbum sapientis sufficit*, to the wise few
 words suffice. Let this therefore suffice, that hath
 beene spoken, to shew you how you are cozened,
 when you bring or send your water to a Doctor
 to cast: and from hence learne to esteeme an ho-
 nest plaine-dealing Physician, according to his
 worth, who tells you that the water doth not
 shew the disease, as you suppose, and the com-
 mon Pisse-pot-casters doe make you believe.

GA CHAP.

CHAP. XI.

Wherein is shewed how judgement of diseases by the sight of the Urine, hath beene upheld by confederacie, and other such like cozening trickes.

AND now to adde more credit unto that which hath been already said (although I have said more already than some would willingly heare, though no more than truth, and yet so much as might satisfie concerning the imposture and cozenage used in giving judgment of diseases by the sight of Urine onely,) I will briefly subjoyn some few sleights of confederacie, and other cunning trickes, whereby impostours have beguiled the common people, and gained themselves credit in maintaining the cozening Trade of Water-prophesying. Now this confederacie is a plot or mutual compact made betwixt the Pisse-prophet and some servant (whether man or maid) or some other of his family, whom hee hath deputed to that office, or else some Nurse, Mid-wife, Apothecary, or such like, who first set upon the messenger being come to the Doctours house telling them that the Doctour is not yet at leisure, and so fall to parly with the messengers, getting out of them all things necessary to the judging of the disease (as namely whose water it was,

What Confederacie is. With whom this Confederacie is commonly made.

was, when the partie was taken sicke, and what other grievances the partie laboured of) and then went, or rather sent some other that stood by (who seemed to take no notice of that which the messenger said to the inquisitor) to see if the Doctour were at leisure to speak with the messenger, who is in very great haste to be gone: Now this by-stander tels the Doctour (whose businesse was not so great, but that he might have come and dispatched the messenger at first, if his skill in Urine had been as good as he pretendeth, and is presumed upon by such as he thus gulleth) all that the messenger had related, who now comes forth and takes the Urine, and tells the messenger that the partie is thus and thus affected, as his confederate had told him, which makes the messenger to thinke that he is a cunning man in the judgement of Urines. And thus the Parson of *Caverley* was wont to deceive his patients, and so gained the name of a cunning man; too many such Parsons and persons are suffered to abuse the common people in our dayes. Others have their Apothecaries or other attenders upon sicke persons, for their intelligencers, who come before-hand, and tell them that such a one is thus and thus affected, and hath been thus long sicke (and hath haply taken such or such meanes already) vvho meanes to send his Urine for his advice; I hope novv the Doctour is provided to tell vvho vvater it is, vvhat is the disease, hovv long the partie hath been sicke, nay and vvhat Physicke the

but Par-
son of this
covenage by
confederacy.

*Another
Dance in
Essex fa-
mous for this
imposture.
That by this
cozening he
determineth
the concepi-
on, sexe in
the wombe,
he tells what
Physicke the
partie hath
taken.*

the partie hath taken; as useth a juggling Dance in Essex (who hath gained by these and the like knavish plots of confederacie more credit than is due to such an illiterate Assc as he is) who presumeth to determine the conception to a day, the sexe in the wombe, the place where the partie lives, and what Physicke the partie hath already taken, with so many other such knavish absurd cozenages, as I have not time, and should (if time did permit) be ashamed to relate. A learned Doctour, a much honoured friend of mine, told me that a Noble-man (a Patient of his) told him that he would undertake that this Jugler would tell by the Urine what Physicke the partie had taken: And a Doctour of the Civill Law told me that he went as a stranger to him (as he thought) and carried him his Vrine, who so soone as hee saw it, told him that hee had a paine in his right kidney, the which (as the Civilian told me) was true, but yet that the Physicianer perceived it in his Vrine was a lye; I dare say that all learned Physicians will sweare as much. This therefore must needs be done by confederacie, or else he had some accidentall intelligence thereof by hearing himselfe speake of such a thing long before, or else by hearing some body else to speake of it, which is little better than confederacie. Such advantages are often made use of, for most people are (when they come in company with a Physician) telling of their infirmities, which they be oft subject unto, and Physicians take more notice there.

*That he de-
termine th a
man to have
a pain in his
right kidney
on left arme,
by the first
of the Urine
which can
not be done
but by confe-
deracie.*

thereof than they are aware of, and remember to make use thereof when occasion shall serve: Besides there is another trick, that Physicians have that live in great Countrie Townes, and have much Countrie practice, whereby they come to know the disease, as also how long the partie hath beene sicke without the sight of the Vrine, and that is this, They never have any Vrine brought out of the Countrie but that (so soone as they have dispatched the messenger) they aske if any body else be sicke in their Parish or neere about them, and so are often told that such or such have been thus long sicke, and after what manner, and that they doe meane to send to them very shortly; so that now they need to doe no more but aske the messenger where he dwelleth, but that he knowes the disease without looking upon the Vrine, and can say (that this is such a ones Vrine) as doth the fore-named Jugler, and the partie is thus or thus affected, although the Vrine doe not shew it. By this confederacie hath much people been much deceived, and many ignorant Rascalls have got much credit, who have accommodated themselves to the humouring of the vulgar people and such as have not been able to discern the *fucus* or cloake of their cozenage; but I hope that henceforward it will appeare more plainly unto them, by this little which hath been said to that purpose, so that I shall not need to enlarge my selfe any further hereupon, for then I should swell this small Pamphlet unto a large volume.

Read

*Another
tricke (not
much unlike
to confede-
racie) by
which wee
come to
know whose
water it is,
and the like,
and may
make the
messenger
believe the
water shew
us.*

Read it therefore and make use of it to that end it was pen'd, *viz.* (non ut fallat, sed ut fallentem evitet) not to cozen, but to avoid the cozenet. And so I will now proceed to shew you the lawfull use of the Urine.



CHAP. XII.

That there is no judgement of diseases to be given by the Urine alone; that the Physician ought not to give judgement of the Urine, before hee have strictly examined how the sickie partie is affected: how this base custome came up.

Obiect.

Ans.

Another

Obiect.

Ans.

You will now aske me: What is there no use of viewing the Urine at all? I answer no: there is no use of viewing it alone without the consideration of other signes, symptoms and indications of diseases, which are not therein perceived: neither can a Physician prescribe Physicke (by the sight of the Urine) with lesse danger, than if (it being granted that purging would cure, and blood-letting would kill his Patient) he should notwithstanding cast crosse and pile which of these he should appoint. You will further object, that you suppose that a Physician will not prescribe before he have examined all circumstances needfull for him to know. I answer, that no messenger can tell us that in all diseases;

eases; though (oftentimes) in many cases they can. Nay oftentimes they can not certifie us any thing how the partie is affected; but (with the very hazard of their lives) expect that we should tell them what they ayle by the sight of their Urine alone, and prescribe them Physicke accordingly. But let such messengers learne to give their Physicians better instructions, or stay at home, unlesse the Patient be contented to put his life upon such a desperate chance. You will further object, that every one is not able to undergoe the charge of sending for a Physician; and then what shall they doe, if it be not convenient to send their water? To this I answer, that it is true, that every one is not able to reward a Physician (especially in the countrie) for comming to see him: Let therefore such an one send for his Minister (who is of duty bound to doe it) to aske his counsell unto what Physician to send, and intreat him likewise to write how hee is affected, what age the partie is of, of what sexe, of what constitution of body, the strength of it at this present time, when the partie was taken sicke, and what other unusuall symptomes the partie now laboureth of: as whether he have a vomiting or loosenesse, or be extremely bound in his bodie, and how long it is since hee vvas at Roole; as likewise whether he have a cough, or sturch, or can take rest or no, or bleed or sweate, or be grievously pained in the body, and vvhether the paine lyeth; or vvhatssoever passion he suffereth: And then

Another
Object.

Answer.

then (on Gods Name) let them also send their Urine to a Physician. And let the Physician (before that ever he vouchsafe to looke upon the water) strictly examine all those, or the like circumstances that I have named: Then let him take the Water and looke upon it, and pronounce the disease: But if he take the water, and begin to pronounce a description of a disease by the sight of the Urine alone, before he have examined those circumstances; he makes but a foole of thee, and is (for his labour) but an impostour, and a knave himselfe. I had not thought that this imposture had crept into this Citie, or been connived at by those that have power to suppress it: But here it is so exercised, that some refuse to be informed of those circumstances (to the end that they may purchase the more fame) till they have shewed their juggling skill upon the Urine. A friend of mine told me (very lately) that hee carried his Urine unto a Dutch Doctour (naming the man) to have his judgement of it: Now this man was so faint and weake, that he was faine to rest himselfe three or foure times by the way, and had his disease written more manifestly in his face than in his water; and now being arrived at the Doctours house, and admitted unto his presence, he begins to tell the Doctour that he had not bene very well (which the Doctour perceived very well by his countenance) a good while, and that he had made hard shift to come unto him; and was ready, presenting him his Urine withall, to declare

declare unto him further how he had beene affected; but this Butter-box interrupted him, saying, I pray forbear to tell me any thing, yet I will tell you your disease by your water: Was this (thinke you) an hard matter to doe, to tell the Gentleman (whose sicknesse was written in his fore-head, who had told the Doctour that he had not been very well a good while, and whose complexion and constitution of body shewed the Doctour vvhat diseases he vvvas most subject unto) vvhat vvvas his disease? He might have done that vvithout the Urine, though his Patient had said no more unto him: Yet to shewv his Uromantick skill, to the end that his fame may be the more spread for the same, hee takes the Urine (though he discerne no disease by the same) and pronounceth his opinion from it. I hope you vvill (in time) perceive your ovvne errours, and their juggling vvho pretend knowvledge of diseases by the Urine; and so I have done vvith this juggling. I should novv answer another objection, and question; and they are these, That it may be that I plead for the Physicians profit, to overthrow the judgement of Urines, that our fees may grow the greater for being sent for: To this I answer, Let their monies perish with them that thinke so, rather than I would be enriched by it. The question is this, How this custome of giving judgement of diseases by it (since it shewes no disease certainly) came up: To this I answer, That covetousnesse in the common people, to save

Obiect.

Answer.

Quest.

Answer.

save their money (because they saw Physicians to view the water at the Patients owne house) caused them to send their waters likewise unto Physicians : And Pride in the Physicians, to shew more skill than ever they had learned out of their Master *Hippocrates*, made this to become a custome, which is become a very strong Plea. I could shew how this custome might be as soone abrogated ; but since I have no power to put it into execution, I leave it to them (whose power is sufficient to suppress it) if their care were correspondent. I will now shew you your errors in the choice and change of your Physician, and give you some few directions for the choice of the most convenient Physician, for most men in their severall places and callings, and according to their severall abilities.

CHAP. XIII.

Errors committed in the choice and change of a Physician: Directions how to avoid these errors: Some Rascalls nominated, who are usurpers upon, and abusers of the noble profession of Physicke, and the honorable Professors thereof.

THE errors that you commit in the choice of a Physician, are these: Either you choose an insufficient man, for his knowledge in Physick; or else one, who (though he be sufficiently qualified for his knowledge) is notwithstanding no fit Physician for thee. For the first, you are in the time of your sicknesse led either by your owne fancie or by the perswasion of some friend to send for, or send unto such a man, who hath (they tell you) cured such a one of such a disease, when all other Doctours had given him over: or else because he giveth out some great matters of himselfe, and disableth all other honest learned Physicians, as doth *Trigge*, alias, *Markham*, who predicates of himselfe to ignorant people, that he was Batchelor of Arts in *Clare Hall*, and Pupill and kinsman unto Doctour *Butler* in *Cambridge*, a Master of Arts of *Saint Johns* in *Cambridge*, a Master of an Hospirall, and one of the Fellowes of the College of the Physicians in
H
London,

London, and all these lyes : for hee never was otherwise than a Shooe-maker bred and brought up, save onely that he became a Last-maker ; and is no other but an Ass (though hee pretendeth great learning amongst silly people) who understandeth not one word of Latine. This *Trigge* lives in a place called Captaine *Royden* his lodgings over-against the Custome-house. Such another is *Butler* of Puddle Wharfe, a Glover, Felmonger, or Sheep-skin-dresser, who should therefore be the better acquainted with the vertue of *Asinus*, because it belongs to his Trade ; but yet I dare say he knowes not what it is. Such another is little Doctour *George* another Shooe-maker, living about *Westminster*. And one *Fashions* an Horne-merchant, who furnisheth Apothecaries with Harts-hornes, and Stagges pisses, and professeth great skill in curing Consumptions. To whom may be added *Downington* in Moore-fields, who drencheth Asses (I doe not meane the long ear'd ones as familiarly as he was wont to drench Horses, and burnes children behind the eares for the Rickets. Unto such Knaves, or else to Witches and Conjurers (whom you terme Cunning men and women) you are carried (though they are the most vile and base ignorant Asses in the world) with more confidence than to the most learned honest Physician that can be. And then if you chance to recover, you impute the cause thereof to such a Rascall, never considering that it was Gods providence not (as yet) to take this
partie

partie unto himselfe, and that this rascally Quack
(for medicines used by an ignorant Quacke, are
said to be poysons; but being used by a skillfull
Physician, they are said to be Gods owne helping
hand) did not kill this partie, for it was (as they
say) but hap hazzard. But if it happen that one of
these Rascals kill his Patient (for so it falleth out,
too often) and some of your neighbors or friends
question with you, Why you made use of such a
Rogue; you are then as ready (to excuse your
owne foolery and wickednesse) to excuse him too,
and to say that the best Doctours cannot save a
mans life when his time is come: and you thinke
this is a sufficient plea to excuse your selves for
not using the best meanes: You will not af-
ford an honest man the like favour, who hath
used the best meanes that Art could lead him
unto, if his patient should chance to dye, and sa-
tisfie your selves (as you ought to doe) in this
case, that it was Gods providence, but prosecute
him with all the scandalls, and slanders that you
can, questioning withall his skill, the which
you are no more able to judge of than a blinde
man of colours. So much shall suffice to have
spoken concerning the errors you commit in
making choice of such a one, for your Physician,
who hath not been lawfully called thereunto, nor
is sufficiently qualified with that knowledge, and
those Arts that necessarily conduce unto the ma-
king of a Physician. Now you erre likewise in
making choice of an able man, when you make
choice

*Who are
not to bee
chosen, al-
though they
be able.*

choice of the Kings or Queenes Physician, who for their sufficiencie, it is not to be doubted but that they are skillfull men; but yet, in respect of th eir attendance at the Court, and their much imployment by persons of great qualitie, they are not the best Physicians for persons of meane condition; for they cannot give that due attendance unto such a Patient as his present necessitie might require: Neither can you obtaine his preience when it is most desired: And then you are constrained to call another, who (in respect that he knoweth not what hath formerly passed about the sick partie) knoweth not what to prescribe without error on his owne part, and danger to the sicke partie.

You erre likewise, when (being destitute of acquaintance with some able and convenient Physician for you) you make choice of a Physician by the garbe, and habit where-with he is accoutred; that is to say, his Beaver-Hat, his Plush-suite, with his cloake of, or at least, lined through with the same, his silke stockings, with all other such fuitable ornaments to decke his person: thinking that there dwells Art alone, knowledge, and the Muses, because he is mounted upon the wings of Fame, which is no lesse mendacious & deceitfull than an Harlot, or the Pisse-pot; the one whereof faineth diseases, the other modesty. You erre likewise, when (having haply made choice of an able and convenient Physician) you cast him off, because you doe not presently obtaine the sodaine effect

who effect of the desired successe. But now to avoid the what Phys-
 but amours of making choice of an insufficient, or in- cians are to
 meet convenient Physician; Leave Tricke, and little be chosen.
 such Doctour George to their Anle, and (*Nesutor ul-*
 they tra crepidam) let the Shooe-maker not presume
 eane to goe beyond his Last; Et Artem, quam quisque
 at- parit exerceat. Let every other man exercise that
 ne- Art and faculty which he understands, and hath
 line beene bred up in: and let meane people, let
 hen Kings and Queenes Physicians alone, for those
 re- great personages whom they are to give atten-
 dly dance upon, and listen unto me a little, in direc-
 t to ting thee in the choice of an able and convenient
 and Physician in the time of a violent and dangerous
 sicknesse. Take therefore, (and that in time) such
 a Physician as is authorized and allowed, either
 by the Universities, or by the learned College
 of Physicians of London; In the choice of such a
 one, who is so allowed and approved of, have
 some respect unto his dwelling, and other employ-
 ments; and consider with thy selfe whether by re-
 motenesse of place, or multitude of imployments,
 he can give that attendance, that thy need may
 require. For in diseases of danger, it were very
 convenient that the Physician did see his Patient,
 (if it were possible) three times in a day: so hee
 should often observe something or other in the
 sicke party, that might divert him from his inten-
 ded purpose, and direct him a safer way. Where-
 fore an honest neighbour is more convenient than
 a stranger remote, especially for the meaner sort
 of

of people, and those who are so poore, that their purses will not reach to the gratifying of a Physician for comming to see them with a fee: and let no man shake off that Physician whom he hath first entertained; but let him (if he please) take another Physician, or more into consultation with his first elected Physician, retaining him still. Let this (in brieft) suffice to direct in the choice of a Physician, for I had no purpose to touch upon this subject, but only to shew the fallacies and juggling, that is used in giving judgement of diseases by the Urine, with the dangers that insue the prescribing of Physicke by the sight of the same alone. If I have not therefore satisfied thee in this latter, read Doctor Cotta his booke, called, *A short discovery of the unobserved dangers of severall sorts of ignorant & inconsiderate practitioners of Physick in England*, wherein he hath (at the latter end) very learnedly set downe a description of the true Artist, with directions for the Election of him in the time of sicknesse.

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Istum tuum *περί τῆς ὀπορμυρίας tractatum* non
oscitanter percurri. De eo si queras quid sentiamus
eum & doctrina & facetijs referunt esse existimo.
Nec arbitror in eo quidquam contineri, quod possit
bonorum aures offendere. Si quis sit qui secus à me
sentiet, ego illum habeo aut pro impostore, aut pro
impostorum fautore. Quamobrem sim ego tibi Au-
gor eum publicandi. Nam hinc, & tñbis apud om-
nes bonos gratiam, & perennem nominis famam tibi-
met comparabis. Neque est quod vereare, ne forte ex
ejus evulgatione labes medicina aspergatur. Hone-
ste ejus praxi nullum hinc poterit detrimentum ac-
cedere; non magis quàm civitati illi dedecus in qua
mere virices aut vapulant, aut exulant. Ex museo
meo ipsis Idibus Martijs anni ab exhibito in carne
Messia supra millesimum sexcentesium tricesimi
sexti.

Tui si quis alius. Studiosus, Alexander Read,
M.D. atque ex numero sociorum Collegij Medici
Londinensis.

Impr. Tho. Weekes.